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PRICED OUT OF BUYING NEW HOME

Average cost of a property in Kent is now £218,462 – a massive 10 times more than the average county wage

By STEVE KNIGHT

FIRST-time buyers are still struggling to get a foothold on Kent's property ladder, with house prices more than 10 times the county's average wage.

According to a new report by the National Housing Federation, the average cost of a home in the county is now £218,462 despite three years passing since the economic downturn hit the UK.

Sevenoaks has been named the least affordable town in Kent – and seventh in the whole of the South East – with the average price of £359,921 being almost 15 times the average county income.

However, even the most affordable district of Medway still has an average house price of £157,449, which is seven times the average income.

Warren Finney, regional manager for the federation, said: "Housing need across the South East is reaching desperate levels and Kent is no exception.

"With the Government bringing in sweeping changes, the axing of regional spatial strategies and the challenges of the current economic climate, the emphasis is increasingly being placed on local authorities to ensure housing needs in their areas are being properly assessed and met.

"We are calling on central government to continue to invest in affordable housing and are urging local authorities throughout Kent to keep it high on their agenda.

"It's vital they continue to work with their local housing associations to ensure the supply of affordable homes doesn't dry up."

In addition to Sevenoaks, the neighbouring districts of Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge and Malling also have average house prices more than 10 times the average income, as do Canterbury, Ashford and Thanet.

Kent County Council's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, Cllr Kevin Lynes, admitted the lack of affordable housing was a cause for concern.

He said: "The onus is on our local district

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Golf star on his cancer operation

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Home ownership dream out of reach

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

councils to set the levels for the provision of affordable housing, but what we are doing as part of our regeneration framework is working alongside them to develop a new housing strategy.

"We are working on a whole raft of different models and trying to come up with some innovative approaches, but one of the difficulties is that because the recession has been so deep and prolonged, there's an awful lot of housing providers who just don't exist any more.

"But we've had a removal of top-down housing strategies like the South East Plan, and the district and borough councils seem to be responding well to that now."

The latest government projections suggest that almost 40,000 new households will form in the South East every year to 2031.

However, the axing of the South East Plan, which imposed government housing targets, has already resulted in the scrapping of 23,000 planned homes, with Ashford council being one of the earliest to announce it will significantly reduce previous targets.

Ashford Conservative MP Damian Green said he thought it was the correct approach.

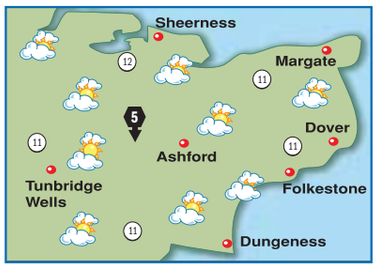
He said: "For years, I didn't think the full 30,000 houses had to be built.

"I felt 20,000 would give us the essential infrastructure we need, but where they go and the intensity is a matter for the council."

Meanwhile, the National Housing Federation says the lack of affordable housing has led to a 10.4 per cent increase in the number of Kent people turning to social housing over the last five years, with more than 29,000 families currently on waiting lists.

Brian Johnson, chief executive of the Dartford-based social housing provider Moat, said: "In these tough times it is important local authorities and central government work with housing associations so that together we can meet the urgent need for affordable housing, while at the same time making the necessary efficiencies the comprehensive spending review will demand."

Kent today



TODAY: Predominantly dry with sunny spells but feeling rather chilly for October. Just an outside chance of a light shower. Light northerly winds. Max temp 11-13C (52-55F). **TONIGHT:** Predominantly dry with clear spells and patches of cloud. Turning chilly. Min temp 2-5C (36-41F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	14	57	London	fair	14	57
Belfast	cloudy	13	55	Liverpool	cloudy	14	57
Birmingham	fair	13	55	Manchester	fair	13	55
B'mouth	fair	13	55	Newcastle	fair	13	55
Bristol	fair	13	55	Norwich	fair	13	55
Cardiff	fair	14	57	Oxford	fair	13	55
Cork	cloudy	13	55	Southsea	fair	14	57
Edinburgh	cloudy	13	55	S'hampton	fair	13	55
Glasgow	drizzle	13	55	Southport	fair	13	55
Isle of Man	cloudy	14	57	Swansea	cloudy	14	57
Leeds	cloudy	12	54	Torquay	fair	14	57

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.23am	Sunset	5.58pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	3.44pm	Moonset	1.21am	5.58pm to 7.24am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	07.34	5.3	20.31	5.3	08.46	5.5	21.27	5.6
Margate	08.18	3.8	21.15	4.0	09.36	4.0	22.18	4.2
St Mary's	01.12	4.1	13.42	4.4	02.22	4.3	14.42	4.7

Week ahead

monday The odd shower. max 14C min 5C

tuesday Breezy. Showers. max 13C min 4C

wednesday Windy. Showers. max 12C min 3C

thursday The risk of rain. max 11C min 2C

friday A few showers. max 11C min 4C

saturday Rain or showers. max 13C min 5C

Bold Steps reshuffle targets top KCC jobs

SENIOR managers at Kent County Council are facing the axe in a major money-saving reshuffle, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Cabinet members agreed on Monday to a formal consultation on the proposal after it was decided the top-level structure of KCC needed to be changed to help tackle a £340 million budget shortfall over the next four years.

Plans to reshape the five departments – adult social services; children, families and education; environment, highways and waste; communities; and the group managing directors department – come as part of a new medium-term plan at the authority called Bold Steps for Kent, which will be launched for consultation on Monday.

Under the proposals, the five directorates will be changed to education, learning and skills; families health and social care; enterprise; customer and communities; and business support and strategy.

The new families directorate will include all social services, and enterprise will be responsible for highways, regeneration, planning and waste. Where previously departments would look after their own business support needs, this will be brought together in one new directorate.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter presented a report to cabinet and the scrutiny committee with group managing director Katherine Kerswell.

Cllr Carter said: "No change is not an option. KCC has delivered as a federated organisation and now it's time to deliver as a single organisation."

KATHERINE KERSWELL: Challenge

Mrs Kerswell said they were trying to create an integrated authority.

"We face one of the most fundamentally challenging futures ever experienced by local authorities, not just with money but with the wide-ranging policy changes coming our way from central government, which are different to anything we've seen before," she said.

"Equally, we're publishing our own medium-term plan, Bold Steps for Kent, on Monday, which brings a clear focus on three ambitions and the different ways of working."

The three aims outlined in the plan are: to support the growing economy; tackle disadvantages; and put citizens in control.

Amanda Beer, director of personnel and development, said the changes in directorates would hit 29 senior staff.

"They will be impacted directly and we have consulted with them on this," she said.

"Some will be slotted into the new directorates, but those directors who can't be will be able to put their names forward for consideration for any vacant positions in the new structure. There will also be an opportunity for any of the 29 to take voluntary redundancy."

A KCC spokeswoman said if a job description was to change by more than 25 per cent the employee would not be able to 'slot in', but they would have a chance to apply for a reshaped position.

"There may be some who don't like the new vision of KCC or don't want to stay with the changes that are happening, so might want to take voluntary redundancy," she added.

Appointments for posts will be made by the end of January, 2011, with each directorate being run by a senior director and five managers, instead of a number of directors, as seen now.

The changes in the top-tier management structure will save £500,000 a year. This will go towards the £340m of savings needed over the next four years. A final decision on restructuring will be made in December.

To see the Bold Steps for Kent report go to www.kent.gov.uk.

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• **EDITOR:** Ian Patel
• **ADDRESS:** Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS.
• **WEBSITE:** www.kentnews.co.uk
• **MOBILE WAP SERVICE:** www.kentnews.co.uk/mobile
• **TELEPHONE:** 01303 817100
• **ADVERSTISING:** 01303 817000
• **FAX (ADVERTISING):** 01303 817001
• **FAX (EDITORIAL):** 01303 817002
• **EMAIL:**
EDITORIAL: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
ADVERTISING: sales@kosmedia.co.uk
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BBC brings to life story from 'Father of Science Fiction'

Pictures: BBC

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

NOTORIOUS ladies' man and well-known science fiction author HG Wells is being celebrated with two major BBC TV shows.

Wells spent much of his life in Sandgate, near Folkestone, having been born in Bromley in 1866, and made his early money from playing cricket before eventually becoming known as the 'Father of Science Fiction'.

Now a new TV film version of his First Men in the Moon will be shown on BBC Four.

The story has been adapted for TV by League of Gentlemen star Mark Gatiss.

It is followed by a drama based on Wells' life, which stars Michael Sheen as the writer. The actor specialises in portraying real-life people and has previously starred as Tony Blair, David Frost and Brian Clough.

Wells wrote and published First Men in the Moon in 1901 during his early days in Sandgate. It is set in a cottage near the Military Canal by Lympne Ridge, Hythe.

It was a follow-up to his science fiction work The Time Machine written in 1895, which inspired the Doctor Who series.

Its two characters are Bedford and Cavor; the latter invents a form of anti-gravity paint which he then coats on a sphere. This takes them to the Moon where they find it already occupied by a race of insectoids.

The previous film adaptation was in 1964.

SPACEMEN: Mark Gatiss (right) as adapted HG Wells' (top) First Men in the Moon for TV

Ray Duff, from the Folkestone-based HG Wells Festival Committee, said: "There was also a 1919 silent film of First Men which is now considered lost, but the British Film Institute recently included it on a search list in case someone still has a copy somewhere."

Wells was also well known for his sexual conquests as well as his incredibly writings in Sandgate, which also included War of the Worlds and The Invisible Man.

A festival is held every year in Folkestone to celebrate the author, who, despite being married, fathered children by other women in the town. In the end he had to flee Sandgate for London to escape the scandal.

The new 90-minute film First Men in the Moon will be shown on Tuesday, October 19, on BBC Four. Rory Kinnear stars as Julius Bedford and Mark Gatiss as the Edwardian scientist Professor Cavor.

It is followed by the 90-minute drama profile called HG Wells: War with the World.

Fact or 'fission'?

DUNGENESS could be ruled out as a site for a new nuclear power station by the Government, according to an accidental online leak.

A report by Nuclear Engineering magazine said a Department of Energy and Climate Change website still in development inadvertently published the details. The website said Dungeness, along with the Kirksanton and Braystones sites in Cumbria, had "been found to be not suitable for the deployment of a new nuclear power station by 2025".

Ruled out by Labour, hopes had been revived after new energy secretary Chris Huhne said that areas which already had existing power stations and where there was popular local support would be considered for a new plant.

Carter's no vote

COUNTY Hall leader Paul Carter has ruled out a reform of the electoral voting system in Kent.

Speaking at a full council meeting on Thursday, Cllr Carter said he thought the Alternative Vote system – due to be the subject of a referendum for national elections – will only lead to more hung Parliaments and coalition governments in the future.

To see this clip search 'Columbia' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Tom Hart Dyke tells how capture in Columbia gave birth to plans to save family home at Lullingstone Castle

Education chiefs vow to improve poor marks in primary classrooms

EDUCATION chiefs have vowed to tackle problems with pupils' development in primary schools after the Government published official figures exposing Kent as below average, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

The issue has blighted the county's primary school leagues tables for the past five years, and independent research is planned to get to the root cause of the problem, said Kent County Council cabinet member for children, families and education Cllr Sarah Hohler.

Kent's children perform significantly better than the national average at GCSE level, but year on year primary pupils fail to do so in the core subjects of English, reading, writing and maths.

Department of Education figures, based on this year's SATs, showed the number of children who progressed to the expected level four between key stage one and key stage two – seven to 11-years-old – was below the national average.

In Medway, the results also fell short.

The national average for pupils achieving level four in English and maths was 74 per cent; Kent scored 70 per cent and Medway 67 per cent. In writing, nationally the figure was 71 per cent, but Kent and Medway both got 67 per cent.

Cllr Hohler said: "This is a situation we are all working relentlessly to improve. I'm sure I speak on behalf of all headteachers and those who work in our school improvement team, when I say we will not be satisfied until Kent exceeds the national benchmark and continues to improve.

"I cannot stress enough the priority we are placing on this. We don't just accept this – we want to address it head on."

Systems are in place to regularly assess headteachers and pupil progress and any child who is not on track to reach level four at key stage two is given learning support.

Intensive support is also given to struggling primary schools, and a shake up at County Hall will established Heads of School improvement, who will help and challenge schools.

Gravesend-based education expert Peter Read said it was puzzling as to why primary school children were not progressing when secondary pupils were beating targets every year.

He said: "There is no obvious reason for it. Teachers in these primary schools are under so much pressure to deliver and they are assessed by Ofsted to make sure they are.

"They can't seem to meet the targets, but it's not through want of trying."

Schools minister Nick Gibb said despite the hard work of teachers, one in six key stage two children nationally fail to make the expected progress in English and maths.

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Care homes overhaul comes under attack

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

RELATIVES of elderly residents whose care homes may be closed have voiced their anger to councillors behind the proposals.

Kent County Council plans to rebuild three homes and close a further four as part of a major overhaul of its adult social care service, but the scheme has met with fierce opposition.

A total of more than 7,400 people signed three petitions against the proposals for three of the homes, which were presented at a full council meeting on Thursday.

It marked the first time members of the public were invited to speak about their petitions at such a meeting.

"Having met some of the families affected by these plans, I can only be impressed by their determination to save the home," said Penny Cole, whose mother-in-law suffers from dementia and is a resident at Manorbrooke in Dartford.

"The residents at Manorbrooke are treated with respect, consideration and compassion and do not want to lose their home. These people's lives are in the council's hands. The upheaval this scheme could cause to someone in their 90s cannot be underestimated."

Manorbrooke is one of three care homes at risk of being demolished and replaced with 'extra care' social housing that would allow residents to live independently but with carers available 24 hours a day.

UPSET: The county council's care home overhaul plans have angered thousands

The others are Bowles Lodge in Hawkhurst and Cornfields in Dover.

Sampson Court in Deal is one of the four earmarked for closure, but lead petitioner Carol Hubble said it was fit for purpose and did not need to be shut.

She told councillors: "Elderly people with dementia cannot fight these proposals so it falls on their relations to stand up for their civil rights. How will such a valuable service be implemented by the private sector? I can't see a private company wanting to keep beds empty in case of an emergency. KCC has put forward no positive solutions and the problem is growing. If it isn't broke, why fix it?"

The other care homes earmarked for closure are Ladesfield in Whitstable, The Limes in Dartford and Lawrence House, Folkestone.

The shake-up also affects Wayfarers in Sandwich, which will be sold as a going concern, and three Swale care homes – Kiln Court in Faversham, Doubleday Lodge in Sittingbourne and Blackburn Lodge in Sheerness – that the council will effectively sell to the private sector and negotiate an agreement where it can retain rights to places.

KCC says the changes will save the authority £2 million a year, but insists it is also about providing better care and more choice.

Cabinet member for adult social services Cllr Graham Gibbens assured petitioners their views would be taken on board and the consultation period will run until November 1.

He added: "This is not primarily about money. What we are talking about is the way older people in Kent are cared for, both now and in the future.

"I understand how difficult this is for many people. I personally am encouraged by the massive interest shown by residents, carers and the media across Kent. It's been very helpful in developing our strategy for now and in the future."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Fresh appeal by road rage killer

ROAD-rage killer Kenneth Noye has been granted a fresh appeal against his murder conviction. Noye, from West Kingsdown, stabbed 21-year-old Stephen Cameron during a fight on a slip-road on the M25 near Swanley in 1996.

Kenneth Noye

The 63-year-old, who was previously cleared of murdering a police officer in the 1980s, argued he acted in self-defence but was later found guilty of murder. But the Criminal Cases Review Commission has referred the conviction to the Court of Appeal, saying "there is a real possibility the court may quash the conviction as unsafe".

It said there was questions over the original pathology evidence.

To view search 'Millifoods' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Julie Maddocks meets Stephen Drew, who set up catering firm Millifoods after meeting the late Spike Milligan and his wife, Shelagh

YEAR 11 pupils at a Thanet school are being given incentives of £150 for good attendance and a minimum of five exam passes.

The Marlowe Academy, in Ramsgate, is also rewarding younger children with points on a loyalty card for good behaviour, which they can then spend on goods such as mobile phones and cinema tickets from a catalogue.

The incentive is being paid for by the school's charitable trust fund and the Vivo Miles scheme, a national reward system available to schools across the country.

Year 11 students must achieve 93 per cent attendance and pass five GCSE exams including English and maths to gain the rewards.

MP gathers support against bogus charity clothes scam

THE fight against bogus charity collectors instigated by a Kent MP has won support from the Government.

Chatham and Aylesford Tory representative Tracey Crouch secured a Parliamentary debate on the matter after a recent BBC investigation which revealed Lithuanian conmen claiming to work for Breakthrough Breast Cancer had been delivering charity clothes sacks to homes in Kent.

The donated articles were then being sold on for a profit abroad.

The discussion was held on Wednesday, when Miss Crouch was invited to join a new group consisting of members dedicated to tackling the problem.

Charities minister Nick Hurd said: "The more I look at the matter, the less easy it is to see a quick solution. The nature of the activity is in the shade and at the margin of the law.

TRACEY CROUCH

"The challenge will be for the people to think afresh, review what we are doing and consider whether we could take cleverer, more co-ordinated and more robust actions to get on top of the problem.

"There is clearly a significant risk the problem will undermine the confidence of the public in giving to charity, at exactly the time when we want them to give more."

According to Miss Crouch, an estimated 36,000 tonnes of clothes are stolen every year at a cost to charities of up to £14 million in donations.

However, she said enforcement action against bogus charity collectors was poor and that only one in every 10,000 acts of illegal collection was punished.

Mr Hurd said he would write to both the Association of Chief Police Officers and the Ministry of Justice to ask them to review guidance for officers and levels of punishment.

Miss Crouch said: "It is very welcome that the minister takes this issue seriously and that he wants to ensure the proper detection and punishment of this organised criminal activity in future. I am pleased to have been asked to join the round table and look forward to making sure this growing problem of bogus charity collectors is dealt with properly so those who donate clothes to charity via doorstep collection can do so with confidence.

"Bogus collection has grown from a small-time deception to a nationwide organised crime, costing charities millions in lost revenue. Unless the issue is taken seriously right from the top, the scam will continue."

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THE INTERVIEW

BY JANE CONNOLLY

Inspiring young chefs to success

ASPIRING young chefs will be tempting taste buds as they compete in the Kent Young Chef Award 2010.

Organised by Produced in Kent, the competition gives secondary school students the chance to flex their culinary muscles.

By designing a main course recipe for two people, created from local and seasonal produce, two lucky winners will earn the chance to cook at a very special event.

Julie Monkman, manager of Produced in Kent, explained that the competition targeted secondary school children in order to capture their imaginations and prompt an early interest in cooking.

"We had a great response last year, with 184 entries from 47 schools," she said. "We felt it was fantastic for a first year and this year we needed to find a way to make it bigger and better. Because of the success of the first event, we've got more sponsors on board, which is really good.

"It has meant we are able to do a bit more in terms of prizes and our ability to promote the contest through more channels."

A winner will be chosen from each age group – years seven to eight and years nine to 11 – and the two victors will have the chance to help design the menu for a charity dinner, to be held in January in aid of Kent Air Ambulance.

They will also cook on the night, alongside Claire Wood, head chef at Woods Restaurant in Tunbridge Wells, one of the award's sponsors.

ON FILM: Young chefs prepare their dishes in last year's competition

"We think it's a fantastic idea and a great prize for the two winners to get involved to that extent. It's an example of how we've developed the competition," Ms Monkman said.

"We decided to add a little incentive, because what we really need to make it successful is for teachers to get on board. We found that last year, when teachers got involved, we got really great entries and teachers came along to the final cook-off.

"The school that submits the most entries will get two tickets for the charity dinner."

Although public interest in healthy eating and the provenance of food seems to have increased in recent years, Produced in Kent is still keen to promote the message that buying locally and seasonally is best.

"It goes back to our ethos, which is about encouraging people to eat local but seasonal as well," she said.

"Supermarkets have created a situation where people can get hold of whatever they want at any time of year, even strawberries in winter. That's OK, but what do they taste like?

"If people demand that, supermarkets will say they are meeting that demand, but we say, 'let's go back to eating locally and seasonally'."

Entries for the Kent Young Chef Award must be received before Friday, October 29. Entry forms, recipe criteria and rules can be found online at www.producedinkent.co.uk.

SPREAD THE MESSAGE: Julie Monkman, of Produced in Kent

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'Strictly' show goes on for brave Ann

FORMER Maidstone MP Ann Widdecombe has vowed to continue her stint on BBC's Strictly Come Dancing despite the death of her brother this week.

Ms Widdecombe said she will "dance for her brother", clergyman Malcolm Widdecombe, who was 72. Mr Widdecombe is said to have enjoyed watching his sister on the show as the 63-year-old made it through to the second round after her salsa routine last Saturday.

A NEW £6 million centre for children and teenagers with severe mental health problems will open early next year.

Winthrop Hall in Staplehurst is being transformed to provide intensive inpatient support for youngsters aged 12-18 from across the county.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, NHS West Kent and NHS Medway, commissioned South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust to provide the facility plus a new 24-hour specialist community-based service.

The makeover of the former drug rehab unit will create Kent's first specialist children's mental health centre. Support for those with psychiatric disorders, depression, self-harm, post-traumatic stress disorder and mental health problems resulting from physical, emotional and sexual abuse will be on hand 24 hours a day.

Officers rewarded

TWO officers from Kent Police's public protection unit have received awards from the Association of Chief Police Officers.

Det Insp Matthew Long was recognised for his work developing the Kent internet risk assessment tool which helps identify offenders who pose the greatest danger to children, and assists in rescuing those being abused.

And Det Sgt Wendy Sherwood received her award in recognition of her contribution to the review of national guidance on managing sexual offenders and violent offenders.

Generation of lost talent warning over tuition fees

REMOVING the cap on university tuition fees could "create a generation of wasted talent" and push out students from middle-class families, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Representatives at some of the county's universities said they were shocked at Lord Browne's report, which proposed radical reform of the system, and said the right to education needed to be protected.

Plans include abolishing the £3,290 a year cap on tuition fees, which could lead to top universities charging up to £20,000 a year.

Despite recommendations by Lord Browne that a levy be paid by those who charge more than £6,000, Lauren Crowley, vice-president (Education) of Kent Union, the student voice for the University of Kent, said this will not stop some putting up fees.

"Oxford and Cambridge and Russell Group universities will put their fees up to the top end of the scale," she said.

"The University of Kent will have to make changes to keep up its reputation."

Miss Crowley said there would be a massive impact on higher education, with many students potentially being deterred from even considering going to university.

"If changes come in students will be leaving university with at least £35,000 debt in top institutions," she said. "At the moment the average is £20,000-25,000. The middle classes are the ones who would be hit. Poorer families are quite well looked after, but students from middle-class backgrounds are £5,000 more in debt."

She said Kent students would be joining the National Union of Students (NUS) and the University and College Union (UCU) for a national Fund Our Future demonstration on Weednesday, November 10.

The NUS called the report "foolish, risky, lazy, complacent and dangerous".

Other recommendations are for the interest rate on loans, which is currently 1.5 per cent, to rise to inflation plus 2.2 per cent; that all students are eligible for flat-rate living-cost loans of £3,750; and unpaid students debts are written off after 30 years instead of 25. Another proposal is that students would not start repaying their debt until their earnings reached £21,000, instead of the current £15,000.

Confidence

If Government accepts the recommendations they could be introduced from 2012.

Professor Jan Druker, senior pro-vice-chancellor of Canterbury Christ Church University, said it would be hard to avoid increasing fees if the spending review removes most of the teaching fund, as expected.

"We appreciate a rise from £3,290 a year to around £6,000 is likely to hit families very hard, especially those on low or middle incomes, which many of our students come from," she said. "We have worked hard with communities to encourage students who may not have traditionally had the opportunity or confidence to continue onto higher education and study at university to realise their dreams. We are under no illusion that the rise in fees may be a deterrent to those students, especially if they feel they are going to incur that level of debt."

Prof Elaine Thomas, vice-chancellor of the University of the Creative Arts, which has campuses in Canterbury, Maidstone and Rochester, said UCA has mixed views.

"On the one hand we acknowledge that, in the current economic climate, a review of higher education funding is necessary and raising tuition fees represents the best way forward," she said.

"However, we must make certain that the increased cost to students and families does not stop talented people from going to university. Mechanisms must be put in place to enable students to study at the institution of their choice, otherwise I fear we could create a generation of wasted talent."

Vice-chancellor of the University of Kent, Prof Dame Julia Goodfellow, said increased graduate contribution is inevitable.

"The prices have to be seen in the light of expected massive cuts in the teaching grant to universities which currently subsidise each student."

Julian Brazier, the MP for Canterbury, called for standards to be maintained in research and teaching and for poorer people to still be given the chance to go to university.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Ambulance move

HEALTH Secretary Andrew Lansley has given his backing for South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAmb) to become a foundation trust.

Should the plans be approved by the foundation trust regulator Monitor, the service will become accountable to Kent patients, local people and staff rather than to the Department of Health as it is at present.

Monitor will be visiting SECAmb over the next few months as part of the final assessment, with the possibility of foundation trust status being awarded by spring next year.

Visit www.secamb.nhs.uk or call 01273 897840 for more information.

Jeep death dive

POLICE divers have been searching a pond close to where a burned out car linked to the murder of a farmer in a burglary was found.

The body of Julian Gardner, 53, was found by his business partner at Bush Barn Farm in Robertsbridge, East Sussex, on Monday.

He is believed to have interrupted thieves trying to steal off-road vehicles left at a repair centre in the grounds of his farm.

A Landrover Defender belonging to the farmer was found abandoned and burned out near the farm at Cripps Corner and a Cherokee Jeep, which had also been set on fire, was found at Sandhurst in Kent.

Police divers were searching a pond near to where the Jeep was found on Thursday for any evidence which may have been in the vehicle.

CAMILLA, Duchess of Cornwall, will pay a royal visit to Kent later this month.

The wife of the Prince of Wales will meet doctors, patients and other invited guests at Kent and Canterbury Hospital on Thursday, October 28.

She will be given the chance to see the hospital's osteoporosis service at work in her role as president of the National Osteoporosis Society.

The Duchess will arrive at about 1.50pm.

Minister says successes send clear message to criminals

'Immigration control not a soft touch in Britain'

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

ORGANISED crime networks are the target of a new enforcement drive aimed at protecting Kent's borders and cracking down on immigration offences.

The move follows an intense nationwide operation over the summer where UK Border Agency officers teamed up with the Serious Organised Crime Agency and police to fight immigration crime.

More than 400 operations were carried out across the UK, with some 800 arrests made and £500,000 cash seized.

Immigration minister Damian Green told KoS the joint work by the agencies will now run throughout the year in a bid to warn international criminals they will be caught if they operate in Britain.

"In Dover a Czech national attempted to smuggle six Vietnamese people in hi-fi speaker boxes in the back of a Mercedes van," he said. "[His capture] will send a message to other Czech criminals and to people trying to come over here that they will get caught."

Mr Green, Tory MP for Ashford, said in the past 10-15 years problems with immigration and associated crime have got much worse.

ILLEGAL ACTIVITY: Immigrants have tried to sneak across the Channel inside lorries

"As you get more people travelling across borders there is going to be more crime," he said. "One of the purposes of the summer operation was to send a signal that Britain is not a soft touch with immigration control."

During the summer enforcement – code-named Operation Golding – teams targeted and disrupted organised criminals involved in human and drug trafficking, and arms smuggling, arresting and prosecuting them and stripping them of their cash and assets.

Enforcement officers were also stationed at a number of registry offices to stop illegal weddings in the fight against marriage abuse.

Mr Green said the operation did not cost more money, but spread resources and abilities.

Mr Green said strike action by border agency staff which took place this week at Dover port and the Channel Tunnel had not affected the enforcement work.

Public and Commercial Services Union members at the port are embroiled in a dispute about changes to rosters, roles and the downgrading of highly-sensitive immigration control work.

Mr Green said: "This is a different type of work so it doesn't affect the enforcement operation. But the strikes have caused a moderate impact causing delays to passengers."

Possible changes within the UK Border Agency are not the only thing the Home Office has come under fire for this year.

Home Secretary Theresa May announced the coalition would limit the number of foreign workers to 24,100 – down by five per cent – between now and April, 2011, when the policy is fully introduced.

This has been criticised by business leaders who say a rigid visa cap could harm the economy by pushing out oversees companies.

And health chiefs believe talented foreign doctors or scientists will be excluded.

Mr Green said the objective was not to deny talented workers access to the UK, but to cut the number of immigrants.

He added: "At the time of recession we had 300,000 university graduates needing to find work. There are bright and talented people here and in the EU who need jobs."

Advertisement feature

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DAMP is a creeping menace that affects thousands of homes across Kent.

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By KATIE HOLDEN

For years, people have tried to solve damp problems, applying waterproof coatings or injecting walls with chemical solutions.

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Tribunals overturn 'petty' parking fines

HUNDREDS of parking fines issued by "ticket-happy" town halls for petty infringements are being overturned by independent adjudicators, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Figures released by the Traffic Penalty Tribunal Adjudication Service showed in some areas of Kent and Medway up to 91 per cent of drivers contesting penalty charge notices were successful in 2008-09.

Some breaches involved failing to show a pay-and-display ticket correctly, or parking slightly over white lines on bays

The tribunal looks at cases where drivers have received a ticket and contested it with the council and lost. Motorists are then able to appeal to the tribunal, where independent lawyers consider the evidence and decide whether it should be upheld.

Areas with the highest number of tickets overturned in 2008-09 included Medway, where 91 per cent of cases – 328 of the 360 cases – were dropped.

In Maidstone, 114 of 126 cases – 90 per cent – saw motorists win their appeals, and in Gravesham, 66 per cent – 56 out of 85 – were successful.

Draconian

In Sevenoaks, although only 20 cases were referred to the independent adjudicators, 19 were overturned and the drivers walked away without a fine.

Ian Taylor, Kent spokesman for the Association of British Drivers, said although parking should not be a free-for-all, some draconian councils were taking the issue too far.

"A lot of these things are trivial and as far as the figures go I would say some councils are being ticket-happy and this shows with the number being overturned," he said.

"We accept people can't just park where they like, but there are times when the enforcement is unnecessary."

A Medway Council spokesman argued that the parking measures supported the authority's pledge to reduce congestion and make the roads safer to use.

"Civil enforcement officers undertake a difficult job enforcing parking restrictions and try to be consistent and fair," he said.

"The majority of parking restrictions have been asked for by Medway residents, schools or traders, who are concerned about illegal and inconsiderate parking and associated safety issues."

OUTSMARTED: Medway camera car

Figures for Medway showed that in 231 of the 360 cases the council failed to contest the appeal once it went to the tribunal.

The spokesman said: "Medway Council takes any mitigating circumstances provided by the motorist into serious consideration, which has had an impact on the number of tickets not contested. We have also been much more lenient as we were the first authority to use CCTV enforcement outside of London, and understood that residents would need time to adjust to this."

The spokesman said Medway pays for an independent adjudication service and is happy to abide by and respect its decision.

"Anyone who feels they have been given a penalty charge notice incorrectly should contact the council in the first instance," he said.

"If the appeal is rejected, a further appeal can be made to the Traffic Penalty Tribunal Adjudication Service, which is independent. Its decision is final and binding for both parties."

A Sevenoaks council spokesman defended the 95 per cent of cases overturned.

"Out of 9,305 penalty charge notices issued, only 20 were referred to the tribunal by motorists, 0.2 per cent of the total, which indicates the majority of notices issued were done so correctly," he said.

"Of the 20 cases, we won one, lost two and did not contest the remainder due to resource limitations at the time."

For Gravesham, which saw 66 per cent of tickets scrapped, a spokesman said many cases were not contested due to evidence supplied on the appeal which had not been available previously to the council.

Scour the Stour

HIGH concentrations of phosphates are threatening wildlife in the River Stour, according to a new study.

With just five per cent of rivers in England and Wales described as pristine, the Environment Agency is planning to improve our waterways.

One of its main targets is the Stour and its estuary near Sandwich, which has excessive levels of phosphates, caused by run-off from farmland.

Water purification often fails to remove phosphates, which can spread over large distances in water, promoting the growth of algae and duckweed.

These use up oxygen and block sunlight, making the river uninhabitable for other organisms.

Other Kent rivers identified for improvement include the Medway and parts of the Darent.

MP's Iraq doubt

JULIAN Brazier MP has said he may have been wrong to vote for the war in Iraq, and the planning for its aftermath was poor.

The Canterbury MP was speaking to the East Kent Justice for Palestinians group when he made the comments.

He said: "We have managed to handle the Middle East situation very badly. I voted for the war in Iraq. It was probably a mistake."

Mr Brazier, a former TA officer, also said poor planning and inadequate resourcing of the aftermath of the Afghanistan invasion resulted in many British military and Afghan civilian deaths.

He said: "We have to be willing to stand up to the threat we face. In Afghanistan there was never any question, we had to go in. We had a failed state that was a platform for Al-Qaeda. But we handled it badly.

"I believe that was a combined military and political mistake."

MD Paul is on the Inca Trail

THE Peruvian adventure is well under way for Archant KOS Media boss Paul Stannard as he begins his trek to one of Unesco's World Heritage Sites.

The 46-year-old, who will be spending nine days in demanding conditions among some of the most dangerous animals in the world, flew to Peru on Saturday with his group of intrepid explorers.

Mr Stannard, managing director of the publisher of this newspaper, will trek the Inca trail to Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas, before being dropped in the Amazon jungle to live alongside the wildlife for four days.

The trip is in aid of Dave Lee's Happy Holidays, a charity sending sick and deprived children on holiday, and the Demelza House children's hospice near Sittingbourne.

Mr Stannard funded the trip himself so every penny raised will go to the charities.

Ahead of his trek, he said: "Whatever challenges I face can't be compared to what those kids are going through. I've seen what Dave Lee and Demelza do. It's the least I can do to give something back."

To make a donation to Dave Lee's Happy Holidays go to www.justgiving.com/Paul-Stannard and for Demelza House go to www.justgiving.com/Paul-Stannard0.

CHALLENGE: Paul Stannard in Peru

People wishing to send in donations can make cheques payable to Dave Lee's Happy Holidays or Demelza House Children's Hospice, and send them to Kerry Head at Archant KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS.

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By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

Ghouls, ghosts and Hythe's moth-man

PARANORMAL: Neil Arnold, bottom left, photographed a misty blob at St Nicholas Churchyard, Pluckley, top left. Top right, Rochester Castle is said to have a ghost of a white lady, a monk, and several others, bottom right, spooky Blue Bell Hill. All feature in his book

AS A self-proclaimed monster hunter scouring the county for wild big cats, it's not surprising Neil Arnold has taken on something sinister for his latest project.

And as with his wild cat research, the 35-year-old's new work is just as likely to come under the scrutiny of sceptics unwilling to believe there is anything mystical out there.

But Mr Arnold, who is an author and full-time researcher on large, exotic big cats in the wild, said his new book Paranormal Kent is different from the 'friend of a friend' tales usually associated with mythical stories.

"There are so many books where the stories are just regurgitated so someone can make a quick buck," he said.

"Everyone's heard the ghost stories of Kent, but after 30 years or so they become a bit stagnant. I wanted to look into the history of some of these places like Blue Bell Hill, with its phantom hitchhiker, but also write about things people hadn't heard off."

Haunted

Mr Arnold, from Rochester, said his book throws light on classic ghostly tales, uncovering sinister secrets of some of the most haunted areas of Kent, while revealing new, never-before-heard stories.

"Blue Bell Hill is, I believe, the most haunted place in Britain," he said.

"For years there were reports of people picking up a girl in their car and she would then disappear from the back seat. There were also reports of people knocking a girl down and she would then disappear.

"In 1965 there was a crash on Blue Bell Hill. There were four women in the car and three died – one of whom was a bride-to-be and people thought it was her.

"But the first report of seeing her goes back goes back to 1934.

"After doing some research I found out a girl was murdered in 1916 and I believe it was her people were seeing."

The ghost of an old hag has also been reported on Blue Bell Hill.

"All the reports – there are about 20-30 – seem genuine. People had genuine shocked reactions when recalling stories."

Mr Arnold said people in Pluckley, which is believed to be Britain's most haunted village, still don't know all the eerie tales of the area.

"I've shed new light on the mysteries of this village," he said.

"Whether a believer or not, there is so much history that there is definitely something mystical going on.

"For centuries Kent has been the centre of high strangeness, from monsters in the woods, weird objects in the skies, serpents in the water and ghosts on the road."

Mr Arnold, who started Kent Big Cat Research and gives talks on a daily basis to groups around the South East on large cats said to live in the countryside, said his book also includes tales of eerie creatures ranging from the winged 'moth-man' in Hythe in the 1960s, to serpents and dragons.

• Paranormal Kent, £9.99, is Mr Arnold's fourth book after Mystery Animals of the British Isles: Kent; Haunted Rochester; and Haunted Maidstone. For a copy go to www.amazon.co.uk/Paranormal-Kent-Neil-Arnold/dp/0752455907.

East-west divide proves a pain for chronic sufferers

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

PATIENTS suffering from chronic pain conditions have been warned they face discrimination depending on what side of the county they live.

While those in the east of Kent have access to a range of services close to their homes, those in the west are often required to travel miles to receive the help they need.

The matter was discussed at last week's meeting of Kent County Council's health overview and scrutiny committee, when it was revealed that some NHS West Kent patients have to access services as far away as the UCL hospital in central London.

Neither Maidstone Hospital nor Darent Valley Hospital has any facilities for dealing with chronic pain, whereas all three of NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent's main hospitals provide some sort of service in addition to several other smaller clinics.

Lib Dem councillor Dan Daley (Maidstone Central) told the meeting: "The difference between the delivery in the east and west shows up more of a discrimination for the population because the numbers of pain opportunities in east Kent are many, whereas in west Kent they are few.

"There's nothing for people in Maidstone yet we've had promise after promise and I'm disappointed to see it's still under discussion."

Sufferers of chronic pain in Maidstone currently have the option of attending clinics at Sevenoaks Hospital or Pembury Hospital in Tunbridge Wells, but Cllr Daley said both were still too far for people in agony to travel to.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust is undertaking a detailed audit to determine the potential level of demand for a more local pain management programme.

Cllr Daley added: "I've recently had need to become involved in pain management and have had to make frequent trips to Guy's Hospital (in south-east London), and I don't think that's a very good idea.

"If NHS West Kent can't do better than this, and much more quickly than this, then I think it's very sad."

According to the Chief Medical Officer's report of 2008, repeated surveys show chronic pain – including severe headaches, back problems and arthritis – is two or three times more common now than it was 40 years ago.

Nationally there are 7.8 million people living with chronic pain, with three in 10 Kent residents having experienced it in the last year.

Dr Jon Norman, a consultant anaesthetist and pain medicine specialist at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, revealed there will be no room for a chronic pain clinic at Maidstone until July next year at the earliest.

He added that while there was a lack of facilities in some parts of the west of the county, patients still have access to a good service and waiting times have been reduced dramatically.

He told Cllr Daley: "The situation is not ideal but it's better than it was and is better than large swathes of the country.

"We want to continue moving in the right direction but there are no guarantees about funding. It's easy to sit there and tell me something needs to be done, but someone needs to give us the investment."

BACKACHE: Chronic pain under scrutiny

Former tennis star opens court

TV PRESENTER Andrew Castle took on a Kings Hill coach in a charity tennis match.

The former British tennis number one visited the opening of the latest Hillreed development at Oast Court Farm near East Malling, to christen the new tennis court.

The Wimbledon commentator represented his country in two Olympic Games, an Australian Open and the Davis Cup before trading his racquet for a mike and embarking on a career presenting and commentating, recently finishing a 10-year stint on ITV's GMTV breakfast show. And now he has picked up his racquet once again.

Castle said: "I gave up tennis for 10 years when I retired from professional playing; I'd played full time from when I was nine so I needed a break, but I'm enjoying playing again."

His opponent was Matt Ferrell, a pro tennis coach from the David Lloyd tennis academy in Kings Hill who has taught in the area for more than 12 years.

A FOUL incident has left a bad smell on the streets of Minster and been caught on CCTV.

A woman has been captured defecating on the village streets, while her male friend stood by and held her coat.

The editor of the Minster Matters monthly village newsletter informed readers of the incident in the October issue of the publication.

Ray Owen said: "All we can say is (and if you're reading this, you'll know exactly who you are, Madam), that you obviously have no pride in your surroundings or in Minster as a whole, as it's just disgusting, what you've done.

"Your companion is no better, having stood and held your coat whilst you relieved yourself. The pair of you should be truly ashamed."

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Firm is given £20,000 fine after worker suffered terrible burns

A CONSTRUCTION and engineering company has been fined £20,000 after an employee suffered severe burns when his jackhammer touched underground electricity cables.

Bradley Marsh, 28, from Ashford, suffered 62 per cent burns to his upper body, face, neck and arms when he struck the 11,000-volt cable while working at a construction site in Tovil, Maidstone.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found Mr Marsh's employer, Dwyer Engineering Services Ltd, was in breach of a number of safety regulations after the incident at Burial Ground Lane, in June, 2009.

Maidstone Magistrates Court heard the firm did not have a capable supervisor on site, which contributed to poor practices being commonplace.

There was also no suitable system in place for the identification of underground cables.

Additionally, Mr Marsh was not trained to dig within 500mm of the live cables, a factor which led to the incident.

Dwyer Engineering Services Ltd, of Shottenden Manor Farm in Ashford, earlier pleaded guilty to breaching the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations.

This week the company was fined £20,000 and was also ordered to pay costs of £14,532.

Mr Marsh was hospitalised for six weeks, and as a result of his injuries cannot expose himself to direct sunlight, due to skin grafts.

His house has been adapted so he can sleep downstairs and he is unlikely to work again.

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Father of stabbed actor makes film about knife crime

By MARIJKE COX

THE father of murdered Harry Potter actor Robert Knox has screened a gritty film about knife crime to prisoners to show the damaging effects of violence.

The 16-minute movie, Cold Kiss, starring actor Ray Winstone, was shown to inmates at Elmley prison on the Isle of Sheppey by Colin Knox, whose son was stabbed to death outside the Metro Bar in Sidcup in 2008.

The 57-year-old, from Greenhithe in Dartford, said the response from the prisoners was overwhelming.

"I felt very emotional, every one of them shook my hand after the screening and apologised for Robert's death," he said.

"They were very accepting of what I was trying to do in raising awareness about knife crime and we had quite a long two-way discussion about it."

Mr Knox, who was last month commended alongside his ex-wife Sally by Kent Police for their campaign against knife crime, said one inmate, who was jailed for murder using a knife, spoke to him after the screening

"He was very remorseful," said Mr Knox.

"He wasn't feeling sorry for himself – he wanted to know how he was perceived outside the prison. I told him no-one thinks about him, people only think about the victims. I was just telling it how it is."

Cold Kiss was funded by Mr Knox, who helped produce and direct the film, and Winstone, who played the lead role, provided funds for post-production.

TALENTED: Actor Robert Knox (right) with his brother Jamie and mother Sally

The 53-year-old actor waived his fee to feature in the film and got involved because he feared there had been a rise in violent crime.

Robert, who was just 18 when he was murdered by Karol Bishop, 22, a "habitual knife carrier" who will spend at least the next 20 years in prison, starred in the 2004 film King Arthur with Winstone.

The young actor had just finished filming for Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince when he was stabbed while trying to protect his younger brother Jamie, who also features in Cold Kiss.

Cold Kiss, some of which was filmed at Elmley prison, tells the story of a teenage girl whose boyfriend is murdered and she becomes obsessed with the power of a knife.

Mr Knox said: "The message is very strong We had a premiere in Ashford and Sir Ben Kingsley came along with Ray Winstone. He said 'great film, no answers' which is true, there are no answers in the film."

Cold Kiss is included as an extra in the DVD of Shank, a controversial thriller about gangs in a futuristic London.

Professor wants 7/7 survivors' insight to help improve safety

AS THE inquest into the July 7 bombing deaths finally started this week, a professor is hoping to talk to people who were evacuated from trains, stations and buildings during the attacks in London.

Professor Ed Galea, from the University of Greenwich, which has a campus in Medway, uses his insights from talking to disaster survivors to improve building designs and evacuation procedures around the world.

His work with thousands of survivors, including people who escaped from the World Trade Centre on 9/11, plane crashes and the Paddington rail disaster, is already being used by architects, engineers and emergency services internationally.

If you were part of an evacuation during the London bombings, and would like to find out more about Prof Galea's research or volunteer your help, go to http://fseg.gre.ac.uk/fire/besecu.html, email L.hulse@gre.ac.uk, or call Dr Lynn Hulse on 0208 331 8706.

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Postal strike helps driver become the first to beat camera rap

KENT'S road safety camera partnership has lashed out at criticisms that it doesn't understand the law after a speeding case was dropped when an apparent legal loophole was exploited by lawyers, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

A Maidstone man claims to be the first in Kent to beat a speed camera rap thanks to a postal strike which meant he didn't receive notifcation he was to be prosecuted.

Benjamin Childs won his case against Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership, and his lawyer said safety officials need to learn the law better. It was a blast that has prompted a fierce response.

The camera partnership alleged Mr Childs had been caught by a mobile camera along Willington Street, Maidstone, doing 39mph in a 30mph limit on October 18, 2009.

They sent a letter to his mother, who was the registered keeper of the car, dated October 20, but was posted at the earliest on October 21, they said.

Mr Childs' legal team at My Brief Solicitors in Chatham, said the usual rule is to send a notice of intended prosecution to the registered keeper within 14 days of the offence being committed.

My Brief lawyer Jeremy Betts is upset after the partnership said it had never lost a case.

He said: "It seems they had forgotten about Mr Childs. The case has now been dropped in the last couple of weeks."

He said the notice to Mr Childs was sent just before a national postal strike.

Killed

The legal team argued it would not have been received within the statutory 14 days and the partnership should have taken other steps to deliver, such as by hand or by courier.

However, the partnership argues it only has to post the notification within 14 days to comply with the law.

My Brief wrote to the partnership, but camera chiefs and the Crown Prosecution Service still took the issue it to court.

Mr Betts said: "The case was in court twice before Mr Childs was acquitted. This means it has resulted in thousands of pounds in wasted costs with the partnership having to pay Mr Childs' solicitors' costs as well as the time spent wasting court time.

"This highlights the partnership's inability to understand the law. It expects motorists to comply with certain time limits yet the partnership seems to take the view that the same time limits do not apply to them."

A partnership spokesman told KoS: "We have to post the Notice of Intended Prosecution to the registered keeper of the vehicle within 14 days of the offence.

"The registered keeper does not actually have to receive it within the 14 days so we are unsure as to why this decision was reached and are currently in discussions with the Crown Prosecution Service.

"The stretch of road in question is Willington Street in Maidstone and the safety camera is there because four people have been killed or seriously injured.

"Mr Betts states the partnership 'seems to take the view that the same time limits do not apply to them'.

"We would like to take this opportunity to remind his client that the same speed limits apply to him as they do other motorists."

KCC supports Medway bid for city status

KENT County Council has backed Medway's bid to win city status in 2012, in part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "Medway's status will be enhanced as a place to visit, live and do business with.

"It will also set it apart from many other authorities, by making it even more of a 'place' rather than just a series of towns."

The council said a recent survey showed 68 per cent of people in Medway actively support the area's bid to be awarded city status.

Only six per cent said they are against it.

READERS of kentnews.co.uk have offered their support to Chancellor George Osborne's plans take child benefit away from parents on higher salaries.

Despite much controversy surrounding the proposal, when faced with the question "Do you agree with coalition plans to cut the numbers receiving child benefit?" 76 per cent of the 402 people who took part in the poll answered yes.

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Climate Camp experiences make film-maker 'just do it'

ACTION: Los Angeles-born Emily James

A FILM director searched 20 times during the infamous Kingsnorth Climate Camp demonstrations admits the experience almost put her off making her latest documentary.

Los Angeles-born Emily James, 38, won compensation from Kent Police after the force admitted its abuse of stop-and-search powers throughout the week-long protests of summer 2008.

But the acclaimed former Channel 4 film-maker admits the negative memories of the rally faded over time, allowing her to create her latest documentary entitled Just Do It – Get Off Your Arse And Change The World!

"It's a miracle I wasn't dissuaded by Kingsnorth because the policing was pretty

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

extreme," she said. "I had been commissioned to make a three-minute film on the protests so I had quite a lot of expensive equipment with me and had to come and go every day.

Obligation

"I think I was stopped and searched about 20 times in five days, and we even had our vehicle impounded because the police said it wasn't insured for professional use even though we weren't getting paid.

"The policing made everything in that camp really difficult and that appeared to be the tactic. Even the food that was brought in was delayed for hours every day and for no apparent reason."

The Kingsnorth Climate Camp protests were against plans for a new coal-fired power station at the site on the Hoo Peninsular; plans which have since been put on hold by energy firm E.ON.

Just Do It tells the tale of several real-life activists who took part in a number of high-profile demonstrations, including April's infamous G20 Climate Camp and the Plane Stupid takeover of London City Airport.

James was given unprecedented access to the direct action groups and decided to go independent because she feared "selling out" the stars of the show by giving more creative control to the BBC or Channel 4.

An executive producer on last year's critically-acclaimed Age of Stupid film, Emily told KoS she felt she had a "moral obligation" to make documentaries about climate change.

"I'm not an activist," she said. "I just work on films that I'm passionate about and care about.

"I've certainly found myself being sympathetic with what a lot these people have to say, and working on this film has made me think about certain issues in a much deeper way.

"I've come to realise that if you believe something is wrong then you have a moral obligation to help stop it. I feel like I'm playing my part by giving the activists a voice and getting their message out there."

Just Do It is currently in post-production and set for release in spring next year.

James said she hopes the film – funded entirely by donations – inspires more people to stand up for what they believe in.

She said: "I want people to understand that when people come together they become more powerful and can achieve more.

"We're not saying everyone should break into airports or chain themselves to railings; what we're saying is that you might feel better about yourself if you do."

Visit www.just-do-it.org.uk for more information.

Teacher asked pupil: 'Want to make babies?'

A DISGRACED teacher who asked one of his teenage pupils if they wanted "to make babies" has been suspended from teaching for a minimum of two years.

Frank de Groot, formerly of Rainham Mark Grammar school, received a prohibition order in a hearing at the General Teaching Council (GTC).

Mr de Groot, who taught at the school for six months, faced four allegations of unacceptable professional conduct relating to incidents that occurred in 2007.

In January of that year, he was alleged to have made an inappropriate comment to an unnamed year 10 pupil that included the words, "do you want to make babies?".

The hearing also heard how he threw a board marker at another year 10 student.

Following this, he was alleged to have used inappropriate language to his year 11 students that included profanities.

The former teacher was also accused of disclosing private information from a meeting with the headmaster that contained confidentialities relating to a pupil.

Mr de Groot, who did not attend the hearing, had previously admitted to the latter three charges during the school's internal investigation. He denied making the inappropriate comment.

This was rejected by the GTC however, who described evidence against him as being "consistent and credible".

SUZANNE LLOYD: Design for life

Auction to help fund treatment bid by painter

A PUBLISHING firm is offering to design and set up a business website to help raise money for an artist who has been refused a potentially life-saving cancer treatment.

Canterbury-based Deeson Group said it was prompted to act on behalf of Suzanne Lloyd because the NHS was reluctant to fund so-called SIRT treatment.

She recently told KoS of her nightmare at being refused vital medicine to help treat the breast cancer that has spread to her liver.

The 43-year-old, from Deal, said three consultants believe a radical new treatment called SIRT could help keep her alive, but health chiefs turned her down.

SIRT – selective internal radiation therapy – involves tiny radioactive beads being injected into the artery which feeds the cancer, allowing it to grow and spread.

Priority

The combined cost of one treatment is £23,000, but Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust has refused to fund it.

The trust's medical director Dr Robert Stewart said: "Our priority is to pay for medicines and treatments that are proven to work and are safe."

Now Deesons has donated the website to be auctioned to help Suzanne. The website, suitable for a small business or an individual, will be professionally designed and built to the winner's requirements, up to a value of £750.

It can have features including news listing, a blog and contact form. Other items to be auctioned include artworks painted by Suzanne, a week for up to eight people in a Cornish thatched cottage, and a week for two in a cottage in France.

The winners will be decided by highest sealed bid and will be notified after the auction on December 3. To join in the fundraising, visit www.suzanne-lloyd-fund.org.

Brave Eleanor is face and voice of cancer campaign

A WOMAN told two-and-a-half years ago that secondary breast cancer could kill her within five years has spoken of the nightmare of living with the incurable condition, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

Eleanor Meade, 52, was told in February, 2008, breast cancer had spread to her bones and become secondary. Despite medical advances, it can't be cured.

Now she is the face and voice of Breast Cancer Care's new campaign to highlight the disease. Eleanor, from Folkestone, will be appearing in magazine and newspaper adverts across the country. Until recently she ran her own foster agency.

The mum-of-three has been supporting Wednesday's Secondary Breast Cancer Awareness Day, the first dedicated day highlighting the condition in the UK.

Eleanor found out two-and-a-half years ago she had secondary breast cancer in her ribs and a lymph node.

She said: "You adjust to life with it. I always expect I am going to improve. I have a very strong faith – I am a born-again Christian and not ashamed of it.

"I genuinely believe that what happens to me, and what will happen to me, has a purpose.

"My job is to live it out and to try to make sure the world is a better place for me having been in it. I know that sounds clichéd, but that's what I'd like."

That's why she volunteered to be part of the ad campaign.

She said: "When I see myself in print I feel sad because I realise what is happening to me is real."

Jane Hatfield, director of policy and research at Breast Cancer Care, said: "It is a scandal that we don't know how many people are living with secondary breast cancer in the UK.

"Without this knowledge, we can't plan accurately to ensure the right support is available."

To support Eleanor, visit www.breastcancercare.org.uk/secondary-breast-cancer or ring 0808 800 6000.

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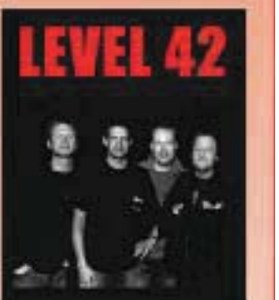

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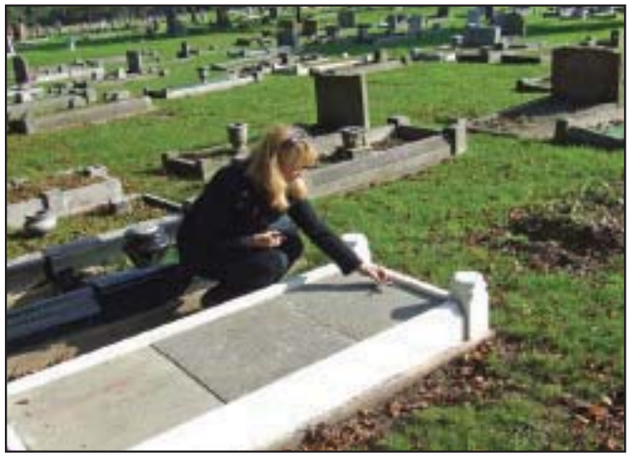

REMEMBERED: Lori Oschefski's during her trip to Woodlands Cemetery

Campaigner's journey to graves of those lost in forgotten 1929 tragedy

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

A CANADIAN woman who started a campaign for a permanent memorial to a forgotten tragedy has made a pilgrimage to the site of 15 deaths.

While researching her family tree Lori Oschefski, from Ontario, realised she was related to one of the victims of a 1929 fire in Gillingham Park which left six adults and nine children dead. They mainly suffocated when a public display by local firemen went wrong.

The firemen were supposed to rescue the volunteers from a purpose-built 40ft 'house' which was set alight in a controlled fire.

But the flames took hold of the wood and canvas, and the display turned into a real-life disaster killing those inside, made up of firemen playing a part of wedding guests along with youngsters from naval scout groups.

Lori demanded the ageing graves be restored and a permanent memorial placed in the park.

She travelled to Medway last week to see for herself the progress made since KoS highlighted her campaign.

She said: "I am extremely happy with the work done on the graves.

"They have never looked better and I just hope all this good work continues. Now we need the memorial at the park and the campaign will have succeeded."

The dental hygienist was researching her family history and discovered her mother's cousin, 12-year-old Eric Cheesman, died in the flames.

Thousands looked on at the funeral procession, as the bodies were taken to their last resting place at the nearby Woodlands Cemetery.

An inquest returned misadventure verdicts.

Lori said: "They have started to renovate the graves and they look brilliant. Now I hope that work will continue, it looks like it is in progress.

"But what they have done so far is absolutely wonderful. I am wondering what happened to some loose masonry, and they are going to get back to me on that.

"They are pieces of the gravestones that had broken off. If they are not going to be replaced, I am sure some of the families would like the opportunity to have these.

"On Eric's grave, there was a small stone at the foot of it with the words 'Eric Cheesman' on it. If the intention is that this stone is not going to go back on the grave I would like to have that.

"The council also told me they are working towards having a memorial place in the park. If this happened, myself and the rest of the families will be delighted."

She intends to pursue Medway Council until her wishes are met.

ROOTS: Lori's mother's cousin Eric Cheesman died during the blaze

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Ex-Tory councillor awaits sentence for drink driving

A FORMER leading Tory on Thanet council has admitted two charges of drink driving.

Ewen Cameron appeared in court in Margate on Thursday, October 7, to face three charges of driving under the influence of alcohol.

One charge was dropped due to a lack of evidence, but Cameron admitted the other two. He will be sentenced on November 1.

The first charge he admitted was being found to be over the limit while driving on Friday, August 20.

Cameron, 52, of Canterbury Road, Westgate-on-Sea, was arrested again last week.

On October 6, police stopped him at traffic lights in Westgate just before 10am.

Cameron was the Tory representative for Bradstowe ward and 'lead member' for customer services, although he resigned the party whip following the first two drink driving charges.

He now represents Bradstowe ward as an independent member of the council.

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Gallery shows the art of war

FANS of Henry Moore should make their way to Canterbury for a major show of his works, plus a host of others.

The exhibition has been 90 years in the making is at the Sidney Cooper Gallery.

The drawings are part of a British Council exhibition called Fall Out: War and Conflict in the British Council Collection.

It has been a major hit in the capital and Canterbury was chosen to display it for the first time outside London.

Henry Moore, Row of Sleepers 1941 (HMS 1799). Reproduced by permission of the Henry Moore Foundation

The organisers say it is a unique opportunity to explore more than 90 years of artistic engagement with war and conflict.

Vice-Chancellor of Canterbury Christ Church University, Dr Robin Baker, said: "We are delighted to host this exhibition. The exhibition features works on the subject of war and conflict by influential artists of international renown.

"The subject of the exhibition remains, unfortunately, hugely topical in our society and world, and the works of art it contains require us to explore these realities in new ways."

The collection is open until, November 13.

Cancer insurance farce

Ruling means sufferers may miss out on payments

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

VICTIMS of a deadly disease caused by exposure to asbestos are set to suffer even greater distress following a controversial ruling on compensation payments.

Last week three Court of Appeal judges were unable to agree on who should be liable for insurance claims filed by mesothelioma patients, meaning many face missing out on cash they say they are fully entitled to.

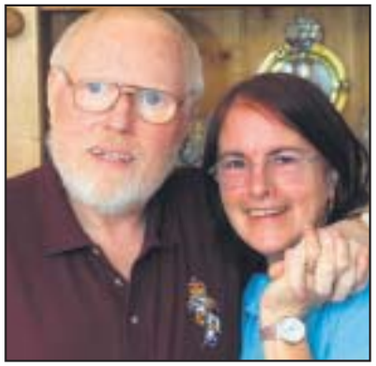
Kent is one of the UK's hot spots for the terminal cancer, with the Health and Safety Executive revealing last year that Medway in particular has one of the nation's highest concentrations of related deaths – with 265 between 1981 and 2005.

Many of those who contracted the disease would have worked as tradesmen at Chatham Dockyard prior to its closure in 1984, where asbestos was used widely in the ship-building industry.

The Court of Appeal ruling says that in some situations victims are entitled to compensation dating back to when they were first exposed to asbestos, while others can only claim from the onset of symptoms related to mesothelioma, depending on the wording of their insurance policies.

However, the disease can take up to 60 years to develop – creating a huge gap between the haves and have-nots.

"Without a uniform judgement it remains unclear which victims are entitled to access the justice they deserve," said Helen Ashton of Irwin Mitchell solicitors, which has a dedicated team representing patients in Kent and the rest of the South East.



NO CLAIM: Avril Gooding-Grant with partner and mesothelioma sufferer Les Alford

"It really is pot luck and has added another layer onto what is already a complex claim, meaning many victims of mesothelioma who have been awaiting the outcome of this appeal decision may not live long enough to know if their families will receive the compensation they need to provide financial security when they are gone."

Mesothelioma is a rare form of cancer that develops from the protective lining that covers many of the body's internal organs, including the lungs and heart.

The disease is partly to blame for NHS Medway having one of the worst survival rates of lung cancer in the UK, with a report last year revealing that just 23.2 per cent of patients are still alive a year after diagnosis.

Avril Gooding-Grant, 53, from Hoo, lost two partners to mesothelioma and is now virtually penniless after failing to win compensation following the death of the second.

"I've been told I'm not getting anything because the company he worked for has long since gone bust," she said.

"I can't work because I suffer from depression and now I've got the bailiffs at the door. I received some compensation when my first husband died [in 2001] but that's run out now and I've got nothing left.

"There are many people out there like me who rely on that money, and it's terrible that they will now not get it."

The compensation issue went to the Court of Appeal because insurance companies disputed a 2008 High Court judgement that said the industry was always liable at the time of exposure to asbestos rather than when the symptoms become evident.

A number of trade unions have spoken out about the latest ruling, which may now be passed on to the Supreme Court.

John McClean of trade union GMB said: "How can it be just that an insurer can avoid paying compensation for the actions of a negligent employer simply because exposure happened many years previously?

"This ruling is farcical, and the tragedy is that many of those suffering from mesothelioma will die before it is resolved."

"My husband and I separated last year. I was at a complete loss to know what to do. Whitehead Monckton were very caring and were able to help me arrange everything without us going to court. They also sorted out the mortgage and made sure I had a new will."

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NEW BEACH HOLIDAY PARK

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JESSOPS, the UK's largest photographic retailer, is celebrating the makeover of its Bluewater store by offering KoS readers a chance to win a fantastic bundle of camera goodies.

The Bluewater store re-opens on Tuesday, October 19, after undergoing a facelift and now boasts a new customer-friendly design layout, enabling you to get up close and personal with live interactive cameras, as well as Jessops' great range of accessories and photo printing services.

There's something in store for every photographer – whether you're a family snapper or a seasoned pro.

Jessops is offering you the chance to scoop an incredible camera package worth £500.

You will win a brand new Sony NEX3 camera with 18-55mm lens, Lowerpro Fastpack 250 Black backpack, Sandisk 4GB Ultra II Compact flashcard, and £30 worth of free prints.

So be sure to check out some great deals and pop down to Jessops at Bluewater.

• Terms and conditions: One entry per person and the prize is non-exchangeable. For full terms and conditions visit www.jessops.com.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Jessops Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date Friday, October 29, 2010.

Question: The Jessops store that is to reopen this week is located where?

a) Bluewater.
b) Lakeside.
c) Whitefriars.

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Graduate brings big screen art project to life across the nation

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

GIANT screens airing live footage of the 2012 Olympics will also become oversized canvases thanks to the ingenuity of a fine arts graduate.

Canterbury resident Mark Smith, 23, has been given permission by the BBC to create a huge digital gallery that will be viewed by shoppers in some of the UK's biggest cities, such as Edinburgh, Birmingham and Portsmouth.

As a result the screens, which are situated in 19 different 'Live Sites', including in Dover, could display paintings, sculptures, short films and other creations submitted to the former University for the Creative Arts student.

"I saw one of the new screens on a visit to Dover and was aware it could create a new platform for the arts," he said. "It is my passion to enrich the day-to-day experiences of the public through art. After formulating my idea I contacted various individuals within the BBC, and to my delight the idea was approved and supported.

"The idea that these screens could be networked hasn't been pushed before, and especially not by an outside source, so it's very exciting."

Currently the Live Site video screens air community information and Olympics news, as well as sporting events including the recent World Cup and Wimbledon.

The Dover screen was secured by Kent County Council's Olympics planning team working with the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games.

Mr Smith, who is originally from Cambridge, is now busy creating a community of artists and creative professionals who will help make his dream a reality.

"In so many of our cities public space is taken up by commercial advertising," Mr Smith added.

"You're constantly bombarded with images trying to sell you something, but this project is about claiming back digital media sites and using them to create a network of enriching and stimulating works to show to the public 24 hours a day."

VISION ON: Mark Smith and one of the big screens

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Husband shot wife nine times before turning gun on himself

A MAN killed his wife by shooting her nine times with a rifle – and then took his own life with an antique gun, an inquest has heard, ***writes Ed Hill***.

Their daughter Clare found the bodies in a remote Brockham Farm in Brabourne Lees, last December.

Martin Jones, 65, and his wife Janete, 57, had moved from Singleton into the rental property just a few months before.

At the hearing it was revealed the couple's relationship had been going through difficulties. Mrs Jones had left her husband on previous occasions, but had returned. They had also been experiencing money problems and the bailiffs were due to visit the house.

But though detectives could not be 100 per cent sure, it appears that Mr Jones killed his wife, then composed and posted a letter to his daughter explaining his actions before returning home to kill himself.

In his evidence, pathologist Dr Peter Jerreat said Mrs Jones had died from haemorrhaging after multiple gun wounds fired from .22 calibre rifle, some at very close range. Mr Jones had died from a single gunshot wound to his forehead from an antique musket.

Neither had been drinking heavily although they both had traces of codeine in their bloodstream, probably taken for therapeutic reasons.

First on scene were their only daughter Clare and her husband Adrian Wood. They had been alerted that there may be a problem by Mrs Jones's sister Sheila Waters.

Problems

Mrs Waters, who lives in London, had been expecting her sister to return to her house in Eltham after dropping her at the farm to collect her car and clothes.

She said this time she felt her sister would be leaving her husband for good.

Clare Wood said when she arrived at the farmhouse her father was still breathing.

Dr Jerreat said although he may have been breathing when first found his injuries were "totally non-survivable".

Mrs Wood, from Smeeth, said her father had a lifelong interest in firearms and had been a keen clay pigeon and rifle shooter.

Her mother had not been happy after she had been involved in a serious road crash.

She said: "She seemed to have a mid-life crisis and did not know what she wanted."

On the day of the shooting she had spoken her father and he had told her he was expecting her mother and they would be trying to work through their problems.

She then got a call from Mrs Waters at about 6pm saying she was concerned.

Mrs Wood said: "I've gone over and over it in my mind. I think my mum had planned to leave him and he had lived with that. I don't think he had intentions of killing mum – something must have come out."

Mrs Waters said she had received a call from Mr Jones at about 5pm saying her sister had left.

She then spoke to him for about half an hour.

She said: "I feel sure she was already dead when he spoke to me. I wondered why he was bringing up all these things from the past. When I got no call from her I became worried."

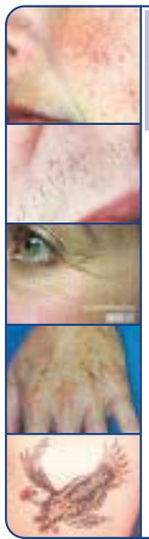
Det Sgt Gary Scarfe from Kent Police had investigated the shooting. He said tapes were found at the farmhouse revealing Mr Jones had been recording his wife's telephone conversations without her knowing.

There was also evidence Mr Jones had at some point been locked out of the house and had broken his way back in.

The couple had been found in an upstairs bedroom together with Mr Jones' antique gun leaning against the wall. The officer told the court the next day a letter arrived at the daughter's house from Mr Jones explaining his actions, but it was impossible to know when it had been posted.

Coroner Rachel Redman recorded a verdict of unlawful killing of Janete Jones and suicide by Martin Jones.

HORROR: House where Jones killed his wife



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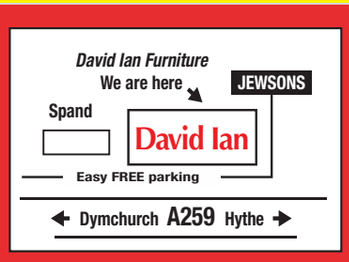

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'Brazen' conman who tricked £500,000 from elderly is sent to jail

A FRAUDSTER who conned a string of elderly people into handing over thousands of pounds has been jailed for nearly eight years, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Carl David Anscombe, of Amherst Gardens in Hastings, carried out a series of fraud offences described as "astonishingly brazen" by the judge at Maidstone Crown Court.

Anscombe pleaded guilty to six charges which included scamming a 60-year-old Dartford man out of £263,305, and taking £86,990 from an 84-year-old man living in Maidstone.

The 40-year-old con-artist also cheated a 91-year-old woman into handing over £1,720, as well as fraudulently supplying information and documentation to Cheltenham and Gloucester Bank to get a mortgage of £187,000.

In addition to the seven years and 10 months jail term, Anscombe was given a 15-year Financial Reporting Order, which means he must report all significant financial dealings and property purchases to the police, and he has been disqualified from being a company director for the next 15 years.

Det Con Mike Prior, from the Serious Economic Crime Unit for the Kent and Essex Serious Crime Directorate, called Anscombe's behaviour "vile".

"Anscombe, who has a long offending history against the vulnerable and elderly, deliberately targeted some of his victims with the knowledge they had previously been the victims of crime. Pure greed and an easy buck was Anscombe's motivation in carrying out these offences."

'VILE': Carl Anscombe

In April, 2009, police found that Anscombe has been using a false identity to target a 60-year-old man from Dartford and had defrauded him out of £268,305 using a complex scam.

Ansombe claimed to be acting for the Court Services to help the victim get back the money he had lost previously when he had been the victim of rogue builders B Smith and Sons, who defrauded 43 homeowners in Kent of more than £880,000.

Between January and April, 2009, the victim handed over large sums of cash to Anscombe and took out loans totalling £18,000 to pay him.

Anscombe was also accused of fraud offences totalling £86,990 for overcharging a victim for building and maintenance work.

He was also charged with acting in the promotion of a limited company and acting as company while disqualified as an undischarged bankrupt.

Cardiac unit's top award

A NEW cutting-edge 24-hour service to treat heart attack patients with primary angioplasty has won a top award.

The specialist unit at the William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, is the regional winner of the NHS Health and Social Care Awards.

Launched this year, the unit treats people suffering the most severe types of heart attack.

Angioplasty involves a small balloon being inserted via an artery in the groin or arm and guided to the blockage. Once in place, the balloon is inflated and removed, leaving behind a rigid 'stent' which allows blood to flow through.

A patient's test results can be sent straight from the ambulance to the specialist team at Ashford who can confirm the type of heart attack and where the patient needs to be treated.

Traffic flasher

A MAN was arrested in New Romney after he held up traffic in the middle of the road – while his trousers were round his ankles.

The 21-year-old was arrested by police early on Sunday, October 10, in Littlestone Road after he was seen shouting and screaming and holding up vehicles.

He was arrested and held in custody at Folkestone police station for almost eight hours until he was issued with a £80 fixed-penalty notice for disorder before being released.

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FROM LEFT: Sapper Hackett's postcard from France; revolver used by Lieut Digby-Jones during the second Boer War; and a photo of the King presenting a VC to Capt WH Johnston, are among the artefacts going on display at the Royal Engineers Museum

None but the bravest

RARE items belonging to Victoria Cross recipients are being shown for the first time as part of a new exhibition celebrating history's war heroes, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Swords, pistols and letters belonging to the country's bravest will be displayed next to their 25 Victoria Cross medals at the Royal Engineers Museum, Gillingham.

The Valour exhibition is being opened on November 11 as part of the Remembrance Day commemorations.

Amy Adams, assistant curator at the museum, said she hoped unveiling never-before-seen artefacts would draw people in.

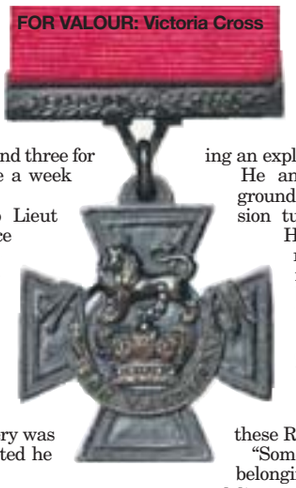
"We have 25 Victoria Crosses on display at the museum, but people often just walk straight past them," she said.

"For people who aren't medal enthusiasts we have brought out archives and artefacts belonging to the Victoria Cross recipients which have never been on show before.

"We hope it will draw in the crowds and bring the display to life."

Of the Victoria Crosses, three belong to Royal Engineers for actions in the Crimean War of the 19th century, and three for action in World War One a week before the Armistice.

A medal belonging to Lieut Digby Jones for his service during the Boer War – the first ever posthumous VC to be awarded – is on show alongside the museum's only World War Two VC, awarded posthumously to Sgt Thomas Durrant for action in the St Nazaire raid of 1942, whose bravery was so great his captors insisted he receive an award.



FOR VALOUR: Victoria Cross

Also included in the display is a postcard written by Sapper William Hackett along with his medal. Sapper Hackett was awarded posthumously on June 22, 1916, after being trapped underground in a tunnel following an explosion of an enemy mine.

He and four others survived underground for 20 hours until a rescue mission tunnelled through, where Sapper Hackett helped three of his comrades out. The fourth was so badly injured he was unable to get out, but Sapper Hackett refused to leave him.

The tunnel collapsed and despite extensive rescue attempts he was never found.

Miss Adams said: "It's important for people to see how brave these Royal Engineers were.

"Some of the archives and other bits belonging to the VC recipients are very delicate and in this case we have made copies.

"Most of them are originals though, and we hope this will bring in new people to the museum."

Also on display will be a selection of photographs which have never been shown to the public. A remembrance book will be put in the medals room for people to record their memories of members of their family who have served in the Armed Forces.

Friends and family of the VC recipients will attend on November 11, when the Regimental Colonel of the Corps of the Royal Engineers will open the exhibition.

Miss Adams said: "We want people to look at these medals and remember what these people did for their country."

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Pub's tribute to fallen warriors claimed by the bloody Somme

EMOTIONAL tales from the trenches moved regulars of a village pub into creating a World War One memorial LP.

Performed by drinkers at the Lads Of The Village pub in Stone, near Dartford, the 10-track CD came about after a visit to the Somme in France and will be sold to raise money for the Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes.

The tour was organised by Phil Erswell and Peter Whapshott and was also attended by fellow pub regular Gerry Kelly and landlord Sean Holland.

Mr Erswell said: "We first visited the Somme 10 years ago and were quite touched by it all, so much so that we now take about three or four people over every year.

"There are so many individual stories. You can see where the soldiers fought, where they were buried and what a waste the war was.

"That's why it should never be forgotten.

"The trips are never 'jollies'. They're always very emotional and sobering experiences. Sean and Gerry were so moved by their visit that we all agreed to put this album together."

The Somme saw one of the largest battles of the Great War, between July 1 and November 18, 1916. It was one of the bloodiest military operations ever recorded, with 1.5 million casualties in total and 60,000 killed or wounded on the first day alone.

The memorial album, When the Whistle Blows, includes a mix of new songs alongside others which would have been familiar to the troops of the time, including Long Way to Tipperary, and Green Fields of France.

One of the more poignant tracks, James Crozier, is named after a soldier shot for cowardice after he fell ill and was found wandering away from the trenches without his rifle.

"The first time we went to the Somme it was a sunny day, but on the way back it poured down and we got soaked," said Mr Erswell.

"Back at our hotel we all had showers and enjoyed a beer. The soldiers didn't have that luxury and were stuck in those awful conditions day in and day out."

When The Whistle Blows – which also features guitarist Fred Hunt – will be officially launched at the Lads Of The Village pub on Friday, October 29.

Among those in attendance will be Steve Roberts of the Discovery Channel's popular Trench Detectives series.

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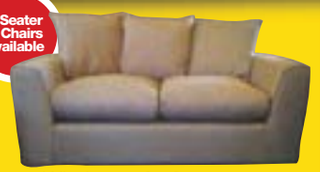

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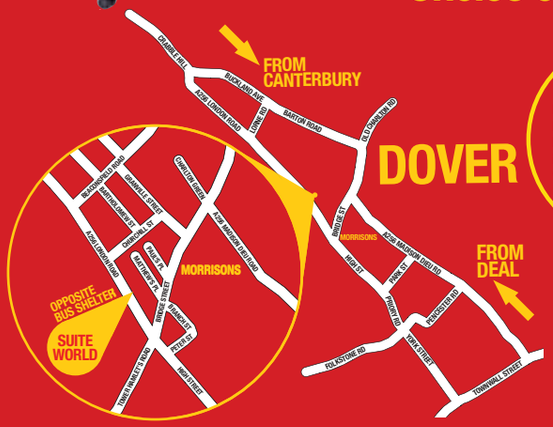

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Photographer's pride as he earns two accolades for stunning wildlife shots

COLD SNAP: Terry Whittaker's prize-winning picture of geese and ducks in the snow

Terry's double exposure

A WILDLIFE photographer has taken two major awards for his work, ***writes Chris Murphy.***

It's the second time the British Wildlife Photography Awards have been held, and Terry Whittaker, from Folkestone, has taken prizes in the urban wildlife category, and another covering the 2020Vision project and commission.

For the urban prize, he took a shot of Canada geese and mallards, and in the Vision category, his winning picture was of a water vole reintroduction scheme at Wildwood animal park, near Canterbury.

Mr Whittaker said: "The shot of the geese was taken on a snowy day early this year at Reddish Vale Country Park, near Manchester.

"I used to live around there and my mother still does. The park used to be so polluted that nothing could survive, but they have done great things and it's teeming with wildlife after being cleaned up. It's still very urban though. I walked down there in the snow, waited for a passing train in the background and got the shot. I had to wait the longest time sitting on the edge of the frozen lake for the train, but it was worth it.

"I'm delighted to have done so well in these awards. It shows hard work can pay off."

Alan Law, Natural England regional director, said: "The amazing images which have been captured for this year's British Wildlife Photography Awards are a great showcase of the wildlife wonders in this country.

"In this, the International Year of Biodiversity, we should take stock of what a precious resource our natural environment provides and remind ourselves just how much it enriches our lives.

"Terry Whittaker is a worthy winner and particularly so for winning two of the awards."

Accompanying this year's British Wildlife Photography Awards, a book is being published called British Wildlife Photography Awards: Collection 1.

It showcases the 10 separate categories covering everything from marine wildlife and animal behaviour to creepy-crawlies and urban wildlife.

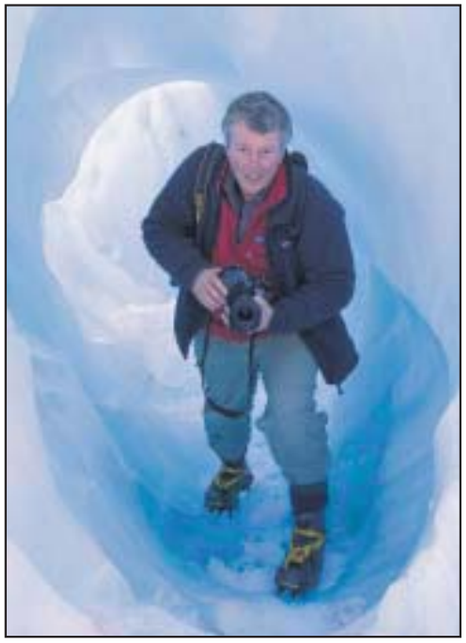
The book reveals an unseen splendour and surprising diversity of Britain's wildlife.

Plus there is going to be a year-long nationwide tour of the BWPA exhibition containing more than 90 images.

The awards were launched to celebrate the talents of both amateur and professional photographers and to highlight the diversity of British natural history.

Creator Maggie Gowan said: "With this level and breadth of commitment from supporters, it is hoped that the BWPA will set the standard for British wildlife photography for many years to come."

WELL TRAVELLED: Terry Whittaker on board a New Zealand lobster boat



ICE CAVE: Terry is no stranger to the natural world

WATER VOLE: Terry Whittaker's second award was earned by this shot from Wildwood animal park, at Herne Common

LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817001, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

We don't need any more guilt

Can I praise Mrs Boyle of Rochester for her excellent riposte to C Russell of Ramsgate's condemnation of today's parents and her refusal to accept there are children who have needs that are nothing whatsoever to do with how old their parents were when they were born (Letters, last week).

The parents of those with problems such as dyslexia or autism, epilepsy or asthma, sight problems or hearing difficulties must have been incensed to read it was all their fault.

Can we assume this 'expert' from Ramsgate is a social worker, psychologist or educationist with vast experience of the children she meets in her area? Or, as Mrs Boyle wrote, a self-opinionated person with little understanding of what constitutes special needs, and no empathy?

Sorry, C Russell, you can't blame parents for everything when nature or illness or even genetic hiccups produces a child with a 'special need'. My son's heart condition is not caused by anything his mother did before he was born or in his childhood. It was just one of those things that can happen.

Please don't add to our guilt by accusing our family of causing this by not bringing him up properly.

Harry Tomkinson, Chatham

Migrant strain on our NHS

The cutting down on staff at Queen Mary's Hospital in Sidcup is not a new thing – it started almost five years ago.

They were cutting the hours of qualified nursing specialists and replacing them by general nurses.

Someone I knew had their hours cut by half, which forced that specialist to leave. Many staff warned this put children in a dangerous position in the paediatric diabetic unit. Many other hospitals still have this same problem.

An influx of immigrants not working or contributing to any of their benefits or the NHS is an overwhelming problem.

This added burden caused others who had paid into the NHS all their lives to wait for treatments. The government did nothing to stop this, but just allowed more people to enter the country. Even illegal immigrants were not deported, so we are still supporting them.

Name and address supplied

OPINION: DEATH OF THE UNI DREAM

Lord Browne's report is dangerous, complacent and heralds the end of publicly funded higher education argues **LAUREN CROWLEY** of the University of Kent

MY view on Lord Browne's report could not be clearer. It recommends a foolish and extremely risky approach to funding the higher education sector, with a rapid move to a nearly unconstrained market of universities in which students pay almost the whole cost of teaching.

It accepts at face value the lazy myth that competition on price between universities leads to higher quality and accepts the falsehood that fair access can be achieved through so-called 'needs-blind' admissions and a trade in bursaries.

It ignores the probability that at much higher fee levels, prospective students – especially from disadvantaged backgrounds – will change their behaviour and make judgements primarily on cost and debt. It fails to tackle the biggest questions in higher education, such as how we should re-shape what the sector does, and how it does it, to meet the needs of a very different economy.

Instead, it imagines these fundamental questions shouldn't be 'answered' at all, but left to the 'invisible hand of the market' to resolve. This is complacent and dangerous.

In the Commons it became clear Vince Cable sees the offerings of Lord Browne as a progressive graduate contribution. However, the student movement will not be fooled by such window dressing. What is proposed by Browne is a removal of the fee cap, the introduction of variable tuition fees and an indication that there will be an 80 per cent cut to the teaching of university courses, representing an end to publicly funded degrees in England. We must stand firm against the marketisation of the higher education system, and make clear that students (and their families) will not stand by when they are being forced to pay more to receive less.

If universities start to charge different prices, students will start to make decisions based on how much debt they can afford to get into rather than which course or university is right for them.

What planet is Lord Browne living on if he thinks student debt is going to double and students won't be deterred from going to university?

Students from a range of backgrounds, but certainly those from lower incomes, will be deterred at a time we want an economy with a workforce with the right skills for the future. We want people with the right skills and attributes to go to university, not deciding they can't afford it.

And there is a short-term issue with the high rate of graduate unemployment that is a real consequence of the downturn. But if you compare the UK with other international countries, we've slipped from third to 11th in terms of graduates leaving and being in the adult population.

If you look at the direction of our economy, we need more people with high-level skills. If people have the ability and aspiration to go to university, they certainly shouldn't be priced out.

There are elements of the report I welcome. We have been calling for an increase to the threshold for loan repayments, so the proposal to raise this to £21,000 is welcome – especially since it takes the lowest 20 per cent of graduates by earnings out of repaying their loan altogether. The NUS and students' unions up and down the country have long campaigned to bring part-time students into the system and the proposed extension of loans to part-time students could have an impact in widening access. But overall, the thrust of this report is wrong. It is desperately out of touch with the real world and apparently sees no problem with putting students and families under huge extra financial pressure in a time of austerity.

Ministers speak daily of having to make tough choices. The toughest choices of all are the ones yet to be made by thousands of families in a future under Browne's plans: can our children afford to go to university and can we afford to support them?

The Government must not ask people to make those kinds of choices – it must reject this report.

• ***Lauren Crowley is vice-president (education) of Kent Union, the University of Kent students' union***

KOS media COMMENT

Wind of change in this financial storm

STORM clouds are gathering over Kent as a financial downpour of epic proportions threatens to rain down on public services.

This week started with Kent County Council unveiling plans for an overhaul of its management structure in an attempt to save £340 million over the next four years.

It continued with the National Housing Federation revealing the county is suffering from a lack of affordable housing, and with the South East England Development Agency predicting the loss of up to 18,000 public sector jobs over the next six years.

But the heavens will truly open on Wednesday when the Comprehensive Spending Review, which contains the full extent of the cuts for almost every Government department, is finally published.

For months, this is the document everybody has been braced for. From the Chief Constable Ian Learmonth to council refuse collectors, who – like most public sector workers – must be concerned about their jobs. These are difficult times and things are unlikely to get easier in the coming months and years.

Nobody can say they weren't warned about the bad news that is now just around the corner, but it still won't be any easier to take when finally revealed.

Wednesday is the start of a painful period in our history. Only time will tell what sort of a lasting effect it will have.

Like a moth to the monstrous flame

PROFESSIONAL monster-hunter Neil Arnold has written a book about the things that go bump in the night.

From the infamous ghost of Blue Bell Hill to the mysterious winged moth-man of Hythe, there are apparently all manner of spooky goings-on in the Garden of England. We have no idea how he sleeps at night. Mr Arnold, that is, not the winged moth-man.

Come to our Remembrance

May we remind everyone about the civic Remembrance Service which is to take place at 6pm on Sunday, November 14, at the Salvation Army, Union Crescent, Margate.

We would like to make this year's event particularly important for the people of Thanet and want to include as many of our services as possible, each represented by their own standards, colours or flags.

This year we plan to include a Drumhead Service with poppy petal drop within the ceremony to remember those who have died serving in the world wars as well as more recent and current conflicts, especially people from our area.

We would greatly value support and participation. If you belong to one of our services or organisations and wish to take part, contact me on 01843 594063; or Remembrance ceremony organiser Norman Jacob on 01303 894399. Thank you in anticipation for your support of the men and women serving our country and in Remembrance of those who lost their lives.

Ruth Kilian, Salvation Army, Margate

Join our team to beat cancer

If any readers have been lucky enough to secure a place in the 2011 London Marathon through the public ballot, World Cancer Research Fund would ask them to consider fund-raising for us.

It's easy to join Team WCRF and in return we offer full support with training and nutritional advice, an essential runner's kit containing your unique WCRF vest, a fund-raising pack and your own personalised online sponsorship page.

WCRF also offers a pasta party the day before the race and a post-race reception with free massage and shower to soothe away aches or pains.

Scientists estimate about a third of the most common cancers could be prevented by following a healthy diet, being physically active and maintaining a healthy weight.

So not only will taking part in the London Marathon help you get into the kind of habits that can reduce your own cancer risk, but the money raised will help us continue to fund our research and education programmes on cancer prevention.

If you are interested, visit www.wcrf-uk.org/fundraising or call 0207 343 4200.

Natalie Tarrant, WCRF

Muppets are EU puppets

We have completed the usual round of post-election Muppet Shows – sorry, party conferences.

Now we can see what is possibly going to happen, especially regarding the deficit.

Promises were made that, in order to share the pain of cuts, 50 MP posts would be cut. I'm not holding my breath on that one.

We need their numbers drastically reduced. There are more MPs than can sit in the House at one time. Is there really any need for three MPs for Medway?

All MPs who submitted false expenses claims should be charged with fraud and fined the amount of their claim plus 15 per cent, then banned from Parliament for life. That would be a small payback to help the national debt. Failure to do so should be penalised by prison.

Our next action should be to leave the European Union. The amount we contribute to the EU is disgusting. Some estimate the total cost of the EU to be £65 billion. We never needed to join – we were already in the European Free Trade Association which was an opening for trade within Europe.

It has been demonstrated by recent moves by retired politicians that the EU is a gravy train.

It has not had its accounts cleared for 13 years in succession because of widespread fraud and poor record-keeping.

I wonder how any referendum on Europe would now fare?

It has been revealed that Lady Ashton was at a conference when she needed to be at a meeting about a proposal to stop the UK's £3 billion a year rebate. Her deputy stood in but was not allowed to speak.

The Prime Minister states there is no possibility of pulling out of the EU. Given our history with France and Spain since the time of Elizabeth I, Napoleon would be ecstatic that his claim that they would never rest until Britain was a part of France has succeeded.

The Lisbon Treaty allows increased EU powers without new treaties. What right has the EU to tell us what we can or cannot do?

Eric Hartup, by email

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

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For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

ANDREWS
Joseph Ralph born on the 2nd October 2010, weighing 7lb 5oz. Son to Sara and Ben and brother to Lily.

BARNES-CHOULES
Rhys Terence Barnes-Choules born on 2nd October 2010, weighing 7lbs 15ozs. Son to Diane and Danny in Margate.

ELLIOTT
Edward Peter Thomas Elliott born on the 2nd October 2010, weighing 7lb 4oz. Son to Louise and Peter Elliott, brother to Jessica-May in Snodland.

CORDERY
Jennifer and Shane of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Logan Martin Nigel Cordery, born on 25th September 2010 at QEQM, weighing 7lb 9oz. A brother for Sunita, Lara, Dennie, Sháuri and Isobel.

FARNHAM
Ian and Kellie are proud to announce the birth of their son Frankie Paul, weighing 6lb 15oz, on 13th September 2010.

LAWRENCE
Elena and Mark of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Stephen Scott Lawrence, born on 2nd October 2010 at QEQM. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

MASTIN
Tyler Anthony born on 29th September 2010, weighing 7lbs 12ozs. Son to Nicola and Richard Mastin in Ramsgate. A brother to Abbie.

MILLAR
Daniel William Millar born on 20th September 2010 at Maidstone Hospital weighing 7lb 5oz. Son to Kayleigh Millbank and Nick Millar of Snodland.

RAY
Steven and Victoria are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Oliver Jack Ray, born on 3rd October 2010.

SELBY
Claire and Jamie are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter Freya Sophie Selby, born on 25th August 2010 at 5:26pm at Maidstone Hospital.

SOLLY
Lily-Brooke Maisie Solly born on 9th October, weighing 6lbs 10ozs. Daughter to Hannah and Grant in Margate. A sister for Charlie.

DEATHS

BIDDLES
Peter George Biddles passed away on 6th October 2010 aged 77. Much loved husband, dad and grandad.

CALLIS
It is with great sadness we announce the death of Graham Frank Callis who died on 17th September 2010. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

LEWIS
Roger John passed away after a short illness on the 1st October 2010 aged 60. Beloved husband of Vicky and devoted father to John and David. Funeral to be held at St Marys Church Chartham on 15th October at 2pm. No flowers, by request. Donations to Pilgrims Hospice, Canterbury, care of CW Lyons, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1ND.

LONG
Dot Long of Folkestone died peacefully at home on 21st Septermber 2010. Sadly missed by all her family.

PRIOR
It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden death of David Prior of Gravesend. He passed away at Hawthorne Farm, Martin Mill, on the 24th September 2010. He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

RUCK
Madeline (Mandy) Ruck on the 22nd September 2010 aged 92 at Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Dearly beloved mother of son Richard and grandmother to James and Tom.

SMITH
Lorna Smith of Bodsham, much loved Mother and Nan, passed away peacefully on 30th September 2010. Enquiries to Earl and Co Funeral Directors.

A real eye-opener

Thursday saw the commemoration of World Sight Day, celebrating the wonderful gift of sight and to think of others who live with visual impairment.

I'd like to tell your readers how they can make a huge difference to the life of a visually impaired person – and have a fulfilling, affordable holiday into the bargain. I work for a charity called Vitalise. We organise group holidays to destinations all over the world. The difference is that our holidays are for people who are blind or partially sighted, as well as sighted people.

The sighted people make the holidays really come alive by describing the surroundings and providing help and companionship. They have a holiday with a real difference and come home with the satisfaction of having helped a fellow traveller have an unforgettable experience too.

What's more, the sighted holidaymakers get a discount on the price of their holiday, in return for the help they provide. Anyone can do it – all you need is a zest for life and the willingness to try something new. One recent sighted holidaymaker said: "Being able to share new experiences is really what these holidays are all about. It wasn't just the places, it was the people that made this such a great holiday. I would definitely recommend it. You just need to be prepared to get stuck in, enjoy meeting new people and, above all, be ready for a laugh."

So if any readers would like a holiday with real difference, call 0845 330 0149, email viholidays@vitalise.org.uk or visit www.vitalise.org.uk.

Clare Stephens, Vitalise

Puppy farm blight

The Dogs Trust is appealing for readers to send them their experiences when purchasing a puppy. The charity is particularly interested to hear from people who have bought from pet shops, superstores, classified adverts or websites. These outlets can be supplied by farms where puppies are bred in terrible conditions without any concern for their welfare.

As a result many of these puppies suffer health and behavioural problems. Dogs Trust's 17 rehoming centres across the UK and one in Dublin regularly have puppies handed in to them when owners can no longer cope with the cost and the upset.

Dogs Trust campaigns against the practice of battery farming of dogs and would very much like to hear your experiences. Email stopbatteryfarming@dogstrust.org.uk.

Clarissa Baldwin OBE, chief executive, Dogs Trust

Crushed by debts

Kent Green Party is appalled by the Government's support for a massive unlimited increase in student tuition fees. The UK will become one of the most expensive places in the world to get a university-level education.

Kent and Medway, like other parts of the UK, will suffer from the effects of making university education more expensive.

The UK has already dropped from third in the world for producing graduates to 15th. Now, we are to become one of the most expensive places in the world for university education, despite serious skills shortages.

The aspirations of many young people are being crushed by the indifference of the coalition Government. If students do take on increased debts, this will cause a radical drop in savings in the UK; another decline in first-time home buyers because those crippled with debt will be unable to get mortgages; and limited access to start-up capital for those wanting to start businesses as the heavily indebted will be seen as a poor risk.

In addition, young people will increasingly go overseas for cheaper higher education, undermining our universities. It is disgraceful that the Lib Dems have reversed their position on this issue since before the General Election. As in other areas, they obtained votes on the basis of policies they are not willing to defend in office.

Vince Cable, ignoring both the need for fair taxation to support higher education and to address UK skills shortages, noted that only 45 per cent of our young people enter universities, but offered no solution to this scandalously low figure.

The future productivity and well-being of society, which should concern him as business secretary, are sidelined. Loss of university jobs in Kent and Medway is very likely in these circumstances.

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party, Tonbridge

Give it a rest, Ann

A person called Ann Barnes, who says she is leader of Kent Police Authority, is almost constantly writing to your newspaper. Just who she and what is the Kent Police Authority?

Prior to her protestations I had heard of neither. Can anyone think of a better case for the open and democratic elections she seems to fear so much?

TG Clayton, Willesborough, Ashford

Say ta-ta to the TA

As the search continues for efficiencies, why does the Territorial Army have an establishment of 38,500 – albeit currently recruiting to 28,000?

Only 1,200 have deployed, alongside regulars, each year for the past decade, according to TAQ, the TA's own magazine. Thousands have not been deployed at all and 10 per cent have declared themselves unavailable for mobilisation.

Similarly, the regular Army claims it needs over 100,000 so it can deploy its contribution to the 9,500 service personnel in Afghanistan. This is plainly nonsense. The TA's role beyond 2015 must be questioned. What will these 28,000 TA soldiers do, other than train and train again? The TA has a huge estate in all the home nations – over 350 establishments. In the same magazine's foreword, the Director (Reserves) admits the TA could be "distributed and positioned more intelligently". Ministers will surely wish to know why that has not been done and why this expensive and inefficient state of affairs has continued.

A smaller TA, reorganised with a reduced estate, must match future defence requirements. The artificially large TA is no longer affordable.

Lester May, Camden Town

Run for the PDSA

If, like me, you've been lucky enough to get a place in the 2011 Virgin London Marathon, I'm sure you'll be extremely excited. This will be my third London Marathon and I'm determined to beat last year's time of 3hrs 14mins.

This year I also want to help make a difference. I have pledged to raise £1,500 for a very worthy cause – veterinary charity PDSA, where I work as a vet.

PDSA provides free veterinary treatment to the sick and injured pets of people in need. The charity provides runners with lots of support, and I'll be sharing training advice and exchange tips with other runners, too. Marathon training can sometimes be a lonely business, so it's great to be part of a team of different abilities and expectations with one shared goal.

The PDSA cheering squad one mile from the end really helped spur me on to the finish line. Plus, after the race, there is somewhere to go and relax, have something to eat and drink, as well as a luxury sports massage to help ease aching muscles.

If you would like to join me and the PDSA team, contact the fundraising department on 01952 204 791 or email marathon@pdsa.org.uk.

Chris Sherwood, PDSA vet

Do you want a second bite at the cherry?

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SOME 160 students have taken part in a programme designed to engage more pupils in the sciences.

Year eight pupils from Dartford Grammar for Girls joined engineers from Littlebrook power station to take part in electricity supplier npower's Enthuse Day.

The event aimed to inspire students in science, technology, engineering and maths.

Participants were asked to think of ways to improve an existing product or design a new concept, before looking at how to meet and reduce the UK's future demand for energy.

Assistant head teacher Carol Williams said: "The activities gave students an excellent insight into the diversity and challenges which might face an engineer."

A DEALERSHIP has donated two cars to vehicle repair students to give them hands-on experience.

A Ford Escort and Ford Ka were given to the Wealden Skills Centre by Tunbridge Wells-based company Lifestyle Ford.

Peter Isted, managing director at Lifestyle, said: "Having been an apprentice myself, I understand the importance of getting a good start to your career and Wealden's motor vehicle courses give the perfect grounding.

"There's a lot of competition for apprenticeships and to have the benefit of practical experience will stand the students in good stead when it comes to taking the next step."

For more information about courses on offer visit www.wealdenskillscentre.co.uk or call 01825 767755.

BUILDING studies students from West Kent College have visited the new John Lewis home shop to see how a building site operates.

The event coincided with National Construction Week, which is held each year across the UK to inform young people about careers available in the industry.

Pupils took a tour of the site in Tunbridge Wells with the project manager and met construction team members.

For information about West Kent College in Tonbridge go to www.wkc.ac.uk.

Students sell ideas to BBC

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

MEDIA students from the University for the Creative Arts have pitched their ideas for a new documentary to BBC bosses.

The undergraduates, who are in their first year of a foundation course in broadcast media, based at Maidstone Studios, came face to face with series editor of BBC One's Inside Out programme Lynda Bell.

Each student was given 10 minutes to present their idea before answering questions from the editor. Course leader Christopher Hunt said the simulation test gave them a taste of what the industry expects.

He said: "Having students pitch their ideas to producers from the broadcast industry, things go up a level. This unique experience gives the students a foretaste of the professionalism that the industry expects, but it also generates a real sense of excitement and good things follow from that."

Students admitted pitching to the BBC editor was a nerve-racking experience, but a fantastic opportunity.

Will Tippett, said: "It felt quite a lot like going into the Dragons' Den, but the feedback and insight into the broadcast media industry we received was invaluable."

FADE TO BLACK: UCA media students working on their skills

Three pitches were chosen and commissioned by the course team to go into production during the autumn term and the completed documentaries will be screened to industry insiders in December. Simon Welsford, broadcast media lecturer, said: "This is a unique project and the work that comes from it promises to be very exciting."

Broadcast students at the University of the Creative Arts, which has campuses in Canterbury, Maidstone and Rochester, have access to modern television studios.

Places are still available on the foundation degree broadcast media course, which starts in January, 2011. The closing date for applications is January 15.

Students can also progress from foundation to a BA Hons degree. Prospective students can find out more about at UCA Maidstone's open day on Saturday, November 20. A shuttle bus will take visitors to the studios.

Open days are also taking place at UCA Canterbury on Saturday, October 23, and Wednesday, November 17; and UCA Rochester on October 16, Wednesday, November 3, and Saturday, December 4. For more information visit www.ucreative.ac.uk/opendays.

Broaden horizons with language courses

MANDARIN, Japanese and Italian are just a few of the language courses on offer through the new Language Express programme at the University of Kent at Canterbury.

From Monday, lessons for beginners in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Polish, Russian and Spanish will be available at the university's Centre for English and World Languages.

A range of intermediate and advanced courses could also be rolled out, depending on demand. The lessons will include an introduction to the language, helping those who wish to build on existing knowledge and improve confidence in language use.

Centre director Anthony Manning said: "Language Express is designed to be an affordable and accessible way of developing language skills.

"Since there are no exams on completion, each participant will receive an attendance document which confirms they have followed the course. Whether students are looking to boost their CVs or simply read a menu, our courses are the place to start or enhance language skills."

The lessons will run at lunchtime or in the evening and will consist of two one-hour sessions per week.

Each course costs £200 and runs for 26 weeks. For further details email languageexpress@kent.ac.uk or visit www.kent.ac.uk/language-express.

Pull out your Review section opposite to read JobsforKent.co.uk, starting on page 67

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to work in the Thanet, Herne Bay and Whitstable area. The position requires NVQ3 in Care or an NVQ 2 with a willingness to work towards Level 3, experience preferred. Own transport essential. Applicants must be willing to work flexible hours, be computer literate and accurate with paperwork with an ability to supervise staff.

Please apply to Angela Smith Registered Manager, 121 Care and Mobility, 88-92 Herne Bay Road, Swalecliffe, Whistable, Kent, CT5 2LX or telephone 01227 792249.
Closing date 31st October.

Junior CAD Operator

Duties to include general office work. I.T skills are essential. Would suit someone who is enthusiastic, friendly and confident, with a willingness to work hard. Must be reliable and punctual. Further training will be given to the right candidate.

Previous applicants need not apply.

Please apply in writing to Mr Ron Twyman,
Piper Double Glazing Limited,
140 Newington Road,
Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PP
or e-mail
ron@piperwindows.co.uk.

PIPER FITS FIRST TIME

SENIOR CARE ASSISTANT

Required to work in a residential home in Faversham for the elderly.
Must have NVQ3 (or working towards) and 2 years experience at supervisory level. 35 to 40 hours on rota basis

ALSO REQUIRED

DOMESTIC ASSISTANT

9am to 2pm - 5 mornings

For further details please call **01795 532629**

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Folkestone Seafront
A New Address

Folkestone Harbour (GP) Ltd

Project Officer

Full-time, fixed term 12 months, £18k per year
Folkestone, Kent

Are you a good communicator?
Do you relish a challenge, enjoy finding creative solutions, and thrive in a small team?

We are looking for a Project Officer, to join our team as we work on the exciting Folkestone Seafront development project. This is a varied role which focuses on personal and online public consultation, communications and project support.

For further details of the post and how to apply, please see: **http://www.folkestoneseafront.com/developments**
http://www.folkestoneharbour.com/developments
or call **01303 212 048**

Closing date for applications:
17:00, 8th November 2010

Arriva buses. Here to take you there.

Get your career moving

Area Electrical Technician - Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells
circa. £25,000, use of Company vehicle

Arriva's UK Bus division is part of Arriva plc, one of Europe's leading transport services organisations. We are one of the biggest bus operators within the UK, employing around 17,000 people and running over 7,000 buses.

Due to staff retirement, we are looking to recruit a qualified PCV/HGV Skilled Electrician to work between our Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells depots, reporting directly to the Engineering Manager. The primary responsibility of the role is the maintenance of a varied fleet, comprising 131 vehicles including double decks, single decks and midi-buses. The ideal candidate will possess excellent diagnostic skills and be a good communicator, as an emphasis on team working will be paramount. A solid understanding of Department for Transport/VOSA maintenance standards will also be essential. Applicants will occasionally be required to work unsupervised in maintaining our vehicles to the highest standard of safety and quality.
A company van will be provided for business use between the two sites. A competitive salary is on offer along with all the other benefits of working for Europe's largest transport company.

Personal qualities should include:
- Flexible approach to hours of work, based on 38 hours per week, working three 8 hour days and two 7 hour days per week
- Self-motivated
- Good communications skills, verbal and written
- Team-worker
- Awareness and adherence to all health and safety matters
- Car licence essential, PCV licence holders preferred, although training will be provided for Non-PCV licence holders

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter to: Mr David Gadsby, Engineering Manager, Arriva Southern Counties Limited, Invicta House, Armstrong Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6TX or email: gadsbyd.sc@arriva.co.uk

Arriva is committed to diversity. If you're good you're welcome.

arrivabus.co.uk ARRIVA

Early Morning Cleaners required in Crayford

Monday-Friday
5.00am till 7.00am
2 hrs per day
£6.25 per hour

Call 01375 371986

121 Care & Mobility

require

Full/Part Time Care Assistant

in the Thanet area, experienced preferred but not essential. Own transport required. Competitive rate of pay, up to £7.85 per hr.

Telephone 01227 792249

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

"Ready for a whole lot more responsibility?"

Of course you are.

MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES – SAGA HOLIDAYS
Permanent and fixed-term contracts
£16,874 – £22,280 + excellent benefits | Folkestone

With a sound knowledge of direct marketing, you're on the lookout for a bigger role with real responsibility. We have openings on a permanent and fixed-term basis for either graduates (ideally with a relevant degree or equivalent) or experienced marketing professionals. So join us – and take control of a multi-million pound budget as you drive the success of key marketing programmes.

As well as generating new customers, you'll implement our strategy to cross-sell to existing clients. The ability to build strong working relationships is important, and you should be able to manage multiple projects too. Experience of running major DM campaigns would be ideal, though it's not essential if you've the ambition to develop your skills.

Part of the Acromas Group, Saga Holidays is one of the UK's leading and most trusted brands.

To apply, please write enclosing your CV and salary expectations to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk Please quote reference number SH447/KOS in your application. Closing date: Friday 22 October 2010.

saga.co.uk

SAGA
Saga people do things properly

The future of local media

Would you like to be a part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent's towns and districts?

Are you Sport mad?

Commercial Sales Manager (Sports Products)

Playing the key role in selling advertising and sponsorship across our new sports products is something that an all round sports enthusiast would revel in. Candidates will possess a proven track record in media sales, combining excellent communication and presentation skills, a great business acumen, tenacity, and the ability to build positive business relationships.
Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured sales technique, a positive manner and passion for all things sport.

Have you got innovative ideas?

Media Sales Executives

We have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines.
We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers.
We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers.

Full-time Creative Personal Assistant

Reporting to the managing director and editorial director

The successful applicant will need to demonstrate they have the ability to not only produce excellent reports and run senior directors' diaries, but also have writing skills that would not be out of place in our newsroom.
You will be producing monthly management reports and minutes of board meetings as well as preparing copy for marketing, and on occasions supplying well written PR for our websites, newspapers and magazines as well as the wider world of media.
This position also demands absolute discretion as the business develops in the coming years.
The successful applicant must also have the ability to work to tight deadlines and be flexible when work demands dictate.
Some knowledge of media, marketing or PR would be advantageous.

Full-time IT Support Person

Reporting to the IT Director

The successful applicant will need to demonstrate they have the ability and experience to support our Network, Servers, Computers and Telecommunications systems.
A good knowledge of Microsoft server 2000/2003, Windows XP, Apple OSX, QuarkXpress and Photoshop is essential.
You will be responsible for maintaining our servers and computers and responding to support requests from our 60-plus users.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:
sandra.waghorn@kosmedia.co.uk
or in writing to Sandra Waghorn,
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,
Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth,
Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS

About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces kentnews.co.uk and yourkentTV, an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

In June, 2010, media group Archant purchased KOS Media.

Archant is the UK's largest independently owned regional media business

It is a community media company active in the fields of regional newspaper and magazine publishing, contract printing and internet communications. All its titles serve clearly defined communities, based around locations or interest groups.

Archant can trace its roots back more than 160 years and today remains one of the country's largest independent media businesses. As a private company it employs 1,850 people right across England. It has an annual turnover of £142 million.

The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

Archant also owns three magazine companies, which between them produce around 80 magazines.

KOS media

Award Winning Company

KOS Media is a division ARCHANT REGIONAL

newspapers • magazines • websites • mobile • iPad • e-commerce

ABC ADMIN ASSISTANT

required by specialist company
Negotiated package
Computer experience essential

Interested candidates should provide c.v. by e-mail only to sray@avenuebuilding.co.uk

No agencies. No telephone calls

CARE STAFF

REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY FOR DEMENTIA CARE HOME IN MAIDSTONE, KENT

Applicants with NVQ grades are desirable.
Pay rate will depend on suitability.

Tel: Desiree on 01622 747406 immediately

Day and Night Care staff

Required For Residential Care Home in Folkestone

We are looking to recruit staff with relevant experience and a minimum of NVQ level 2. Experience caring for the elderly is essential.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 for further details or email CV to cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk

Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

Assistant Manager

Required For Residential Care Home in Folkestone

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person.
Must have minimum NVQ Level 3 qualification, and experience in caring for the elderly is essential.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 for further details or email CV to cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk

Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

Full Time Practice ADMINISTRATOR

HOURS: 37.5 hours per week
(Monday-Sunday shift patterns)
SALARY: £7.80 an hour plus enhance pay weekends and bank holidays

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:
Working for busy NHS -GP Surgery/Walk-in Centres in Medway. Customer Service face to face and on the telephone. Administrative duties. IT Skills Required / Processing Data. Full driving licence

Send your CV to medway.hc@nhs.net or telephone 01634 575232

VACANY FOR A

DEPUTY MANAGER

IN A CARE HOME REGISTERED FOR 29 YOUNG ADULTS WITH AUTISM / ASPERGERS SYNDROME

- Appropriate qualification essential: NVQ 4 in Care Qualified preferred, however other relevant care related Qualifications considered.
- Extensive experience essential in a managerial position working with young adults with Learning Disabilities or Mental Health conditions
- Driver essential

Normal hours - Mon to Fri, (but some flexibility may be required to meet the needs of the service) plus on call
Salary dependent on qualifications & experience £18,000-£22,000 p.a.

Closing date for application 18 October 2010

For an application form & job description please phone **Jennifer** on **01797 363550**
The Springs Community, St. Mary's Bay, Kent (Part of Cygnet Health Care)

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POWERED BY KOS MEDIA

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 5 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

FULL TIME CREDIT CONTROLLER (Margate)

To cover Maternity Leave - one year contract
Closing date for applications –20 October 2010

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Cathy Billet, Finance Supervisor on 01843 234281

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer

This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

STONE BAY SCHOOL

RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE OFFICERS FULL TIME

37 HOURS PER WEEK INCLUDING WEEKEND AND SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKING. FIXED TERM CONTRACT SALARY SCALE KS3 POINTS 7 – 11 DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS. £14,957 - £16,440 INCLUDES WEEKEND ALLOWANCE.

Carers required to work at this special school for children aged 11-19 with autism and associated learning difficulties. Previous experience within a school or care setting is desirable. NVQ Level 3 qualification is desirable, but not essential.

The hours will be on a split-shift system i.e. 7.30 am – 9.15 am and 3.30 pm – 10.30 pm on the same day. There are two weekend shifts 7.30am – 3.15 pm. and 2.45 pm – 10.30 pm but these times will vary during holiday periods.

Stone Bay School is committed to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children and employees are required to have an enhanced CRB disclosure.
KCC final-salary pension scheme membership available.
Please phone 01843 863421, e-mail office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk, or write to Stone Bay School, 70 Stone Road, Broadstairs, CT10 1EB for an application form.
Closing date for applications is Friday 5th November 2010.
Kent County Council is an equal opportunities employer.

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Departmental Administrator *Ref: M0171*

Salary: £15,453 - £17,663 per annum. Fixed Term Maternity Cover. Maidstone

We are looking to recruit an Administrator/Secretary with excellent administration and organisational skills to join our successful Public and Retail Services Faculty. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate knowledge of office procedures and ability to use MS office packages.

***CLOSING DATE:* Friday 22 October 2010**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from **www.midkent.ac.uk**. Alternatively, please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk**. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

MidKent College

To advertise in this section ✆ **01303 817040**

Turner Contemporary

Schools Officer circa £25k

Full time, fixed term contract, ends March 2012

Designed by David Chipperfield Architects, Turner Contemporary is an exciting new art gallery opening in Margate in spring 2011.

We are seeking an ambitious, creative and highly motivated individual to manage a world-class, innovative and sustainable Schools Programme.

To find out more and apply for the post go to www.turnercontemporary.org

Closing date for applications:
Friday 12 November
Interviews will be held on
Monday 29 November

STONE BAY SCHOOL

SECOND DEPUTY HEAD OF CARE FULL TIME

SALARY £27,202 PLUS £1,621 WEEKEND ALLOWANCE SCALE KS9 POINT 29. PERMANENT 52 WEEK POST INCLUDING ALTERNATE WEEKEND WORKING

A second Deputy Head of Care required to work at this special school for children aged 11-19 with autism and associated learning difficulties, reporting to the Senior Care Team. Previous employment within a school or social care setting is essential, with relevant leadership/management experience. NVQ Level 4 qualification is desirable, but not essential as training will be provided.

A proportion of the working week is to be spent in direct care work/pupil support to an average of 75%. The post holder must be skilled in working with children and young people who present complex challenging behaviour. The successful applicant will have a track record of proactive approaches to behaviour management and will be required to manage the schools extended year provision, which will involve working outside of term time. Some holiday entitlement can be taken during term time by arrangement with Headteacher or Head of Care.

Stone Bay School is committed to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children and employees are required to have an enhanced CRB disclosure. KCC final-salary pension scheme membership available.

Please phone 01843 863421, e-mail office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk, or write to Stone Bay School, 70 Stone Road, Broadstairs, CT10 1EB for an application form.

Closing date for applications is Friday 12th November 2010.
Kent County Council is an equal opportunities employer.

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✔ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
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Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

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Committed to equal opportunities

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REGISTERED NURSES

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Excellent rates of pay plus benefits and possible accommodation

Our client is a 40-bed independent hospital set in beautiful countryside on the Kent/Sussex borders. They have excellent opportunities for nurses wishing to be part of a caring and committed multi-disciplinary team offering whole person care.

For full details please call Neil or Sally on: 01227 780888 or email your CV to: medical@careerline.co.uk Ref: MH 2721

Careerline

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Accountancy

Contracts Manager

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Contracts Manager
GSE Design & Build Limited requires a motivated and enthusiastic Contracts Manager with a proven track record showing the ability to deliver projects in Kent & Sussex on budget, to programme and to the satisfaction of the client. Your CV should demonstrate experience in a range of market sectors including commercial, retail, education and health with both traditional and design and build contract forms.
An excellent package is offered to the right candidate.
Application in writing enclosing a CV to Sue Whittaker, HR Manager , Joshna House, Crowbridge Road, Orbital Business Park, Ashford, Kent TN24 9GR or sue.whittaker@gse-group.com . Closing date is 15th October 2010.
To apply/more information:
GSE Group
Sue.Whittaker@gse-group.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Administration, Secretarial, PA

HEAD RECEPTIONIST

Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
Exciting Opportunity to join Broome Park Country Club's dynamic Reception Team
Diamond Resorts International® is seeking a Head Receptionist -Temporary for six months40 hours per week We are seeking a customer focused and flexible individual to manage the smooth running of our reception area and small team. Key responsibilities include; customer care, cash handling, telephony, communication with other departments and general administration. Customer service skills, computer literacy, a pleasant manner and hands on approach are essential for this role. This is a full time position working five days per week on a rota basis to include evenings and some weekends. Previous experience in a similar role or supervisory position is preferred. For more details or to apply please email Clare.croose@diamondresorts.com or contact Clare Croose on 01227 831 701
We are an equal opportunity employer
To apply/more information:
Diamond Resorts
clare.croose@diamondresorts.com
Quoting Job Ref:

Parish Clerk

Wye
Salary NJC Payrates
WYE with HINXHILL PARISH COUNCILPARISH CLERKPart-time (18 hrs per week)Flexible, home-based - NJC pay rates
This post provides a major opportunity for a forward-looking and committed person to serve the Parish Council at a critical time in Wye's history and to contribute to the successful development of the Council and village alike. The Clerk's work is varied and involves acting on the Council's behalf as its executive and point of contact for the public and all external organisations, as well as servicing its monthly evening meetings and other occasional events. Starting in January 2011 the successful candidate will overlap with the present Clerk, who will take up the post of Responsible Financial Officer in April 2011. The new Clerk will be given support to work for the CiLCA qualification. Please visit the Council's website www.wyeparish.info for a job description, person specification and application details. Closing date for the receipt of applications is 15th October 2010. Interviews will take place on the evening of 2nd November 2010
To apply/more information:
WYE with HINXHILL PARISH COUNCIL
wye.parishclerk@btinternet.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Administrator

Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Littlebourne House
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Installation Administrator

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Sunray Engineering Ltd - Manufactures and installers of steel doors, fire doors, security doors, industrial doors and louvre systems. We are looking for an experienced, self motivated person to ensure the smooth organisation of our site installations, this person needs to be a strong, confident and well organised individual. Previous Field Service Administration experience is a pre requisite. Some of the Main Duties Include: Organising, planning and scheduling of the installation work program and liaison with all departments within the company to ensure this plan is achieved.Liaison with Site Contacts to ensure delivery of customers orders for site installation.Produce and supply all relevant supporting documentation to site including O & M manuals, method statements, Health & safety, risk assessments and site data packsConstant liaison with site to ensure installation can take place when required and re-organisation of installation and production program as required.To produce the actual job costing's and provide regular feedback as to performance against budgets.Any further administration duties required for other areas of the business. To apply please email your CV to damian.kerry@sunraydoors.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Sunray Engineering Ltd
damian.kerry@sunraydoors.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Administrator

Chatham
Salary £17,834.00 p.a
To apply/more information:
Nacro Services Kent
colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Project Officer

Folkestone
Salary £18k per year
Project OfficerFull-time, fixed term 12 months, £18k per yearFolkestone, Kent Are you a good communicator?Do you relish a challenge, enjoy finding creative solutions, and thrive in a small team? We are looking for a Project Officer, to join our team as we work on the exciting Folkestone Seafront development project. This is a varied role which focuses on personal and online public consultation, communications and project support. For further details of the post and how to apply, please see: www.folkestoneharbour.com/developments/ or call 01303 212048Closing date for applications: 17:00, 8th November 2010 www.folkestoneseafront.com/developments/
To apply/more information:
Folkestone Harbour (GP) Ltd
Gabrielle.Wilson@strandhouse.org
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Practice Administrator

Medway
Salary £7.80 per hour
To apply/more information:
DMC Healthcare
medwayhc@nhs.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Full-time creative Personal Assistant

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
KOS Media
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Receptionist / Customer Service

Canterbury
Salary 14k
Working hours are: 32 hours Mon - Fri: 6.30am - 12.30pm Tues 1.30pm-3.30pmCan you ... provide excellent service "Walt Disney style"? Are you: •Hard working and motivated •Enthusiastic and committed •Organised and efficient •Work well solo as well as be part of a team •Thrive on self improvement and success? Then we have the job for you!! We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics), basic computer skills are preferable and some experience in a similar post although full training will be given. If you think you have what we are looking for and consider yourself to be confident and outgoing, please apply in writing with your CV to: Dr Tracy Harley, The Wellness Practice Ltd, 30 Whitstable Road, Blean nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 9EB.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: Rec Aug10

Administrator and PA to Doctor

Canterbury
Salary 14k
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: PA Aug10

Marketing, Sales and Communication

Canterbury
Salary 14k (starting salary)
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 2010-02

Administrator and PA to Doctor

Canterbury
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: PA Aug10

Agriculture, Forestry, Environment

Horticultural Person

Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
The Fifth Trust is looking for a person with proven horticultural and growing experience to work on a new exciting project.
We have a two year funded vacancy to grow fruit and vegetables on our Barham site.For more information please call 01227 831052
Please send a CV and covering letter to: Peter Buscall, Elham Valley Vineyard, BarhamNr Canterbury, Kent CT4 6LN.
To apply/more information:
Family Investment Homes Ltd
applications@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Catering, Hospitality

Chef

Tunbridge Wells
Salary Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Beacon (The)
beaconhotel@btopenworld.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sous Chef

Nr Tunbridge Wells
Salary Up to £25,000
To apply/more information:
Brunning & Price
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Chefs de Partie

Nr Tunbridge Wells
Salary £15,000 - £17,500
To apply/more information:
Brunning & Price
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Cook/Manager

Cranbrook
Salary Salary Negotiable
Cook/ManagerFor Cranbrook Primary School (Cranbrook)
Main Duties: To manage the catering operation in a Primary School. This is a new contract approximately 90 meals per day. This position also involves Cash Collection and reconciliation following company procedures and KCC Head Teacher Voucher System (Full training provided)
This position involves food production, all due diligence & company procedures, staff management, client communication, marketing, and much more (Job Description available on request): Monday to FridayTerm time only, 8.30am to 2.00pm, 27.5 hours per week
Contact catering@pc-fare.co.uk quoting Cranbrook job vacancy
Closing date Friday 22nd October 2010.
To apply/more information:
Principal Catering
Lorraine@historicdockyardcatering.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

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Flat Pack Builder

East Kent
Salary £12 per hour
D.I.Y. Expert? National, home assembly service needs part-timerswell capable of assembling flat-packed furniture in our customer's homes near you. Pay £12.00 per hr Respond with full postal address and tel no. to:jack.bock@screwdriver-flatpack.co.uk or fax: 0208847234
To apply/more information:
Screwdriver Ltd
jack.bock@screwdriver-flatpack.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Graduate Engineers

Saudi Arabia
Salary Negotiable
PLASTIC PIPE EXTRUSION & INJECTION MOULDINGThree graduate engineers required in Saudi Arabia.Production: Polymers, Production/Industrial engineering. 10 years production management, at least 5 in injection, extrusion, compounding.Maintenance: mechanical/electrical engineering.Industrial: Production/Manufacturing/Engineering. Eliminate waste.Send detailed cv to saudipipes@gmail.com. Do not send by attachment.
To apply/more information:
William Starkey
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Health & Beauty

Experienced Stylist & Enthusiastic Junior

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Taylor Martin Hair at Mersham le Hatchare looking for an Experienced Stylist with 3 years experience and anEthusiastic Junior, possinly a school leaver to join our friendly, busy salon.Please ring 01233 502719
To apply/more information:
Taylor Martin Hair
taylormartinhair@btconnect.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

IT Service Engineer

Ramsgate and Client Sites
Salary £18K-£22K
We are currently seeking a highly skilled service engineer with the drive and determination to help us support our client base. This position reports to our Service Manager. We are looking for an individual who is a problem-solver and has a proven track record of working within a team environment to successfully address challenging user computing issues and is accustomed to utilising technical training opportunities to improve their skills. If you have the experience and the desire, we'd like to talk to you. Our service engineers are responsible for maintaining user uptime and improving their computing experiences through effective remote monitoring, maintenance and problem identification and resolution activities, as well as growing and developing the organisation's perception with existing customers through exceptional customer service. Candidates must be energetic and focused with a strong motivation to learn new technologies and management and maintenance processes. This position requires dedication, persistence, follow-up, effective utilisation of provided resources and unbeatable customer service. This position will include identifying user problems and working within a structured problem management and resolution process to remediate them within established SLAs, and involves working with other resources and vendors to deliver effective support services. Responsibilities include identifying, documenting and troubleshooting user computing issues to resolution and maintaining customer satisfaction. Job duties include utilising our remote monitoring and management (RMM) and professional services automation (PSA) solutions along with other service-specific tools and technologies to deliver remote user support services and update service request information, answer technical support calls, assign ticket severity, prioritise work accordingly, and collaborate and work with other staff and vendor support resources to resolve issues. Overall relationship management and the ability to coordinate required resources to respond to complex IT requirements are desired. Other requirements include participating in on-going training and attainment of manufacturer certifications, developing and maintaining relationships with user and vendor contacts, and preparing and presenting service and monitoring reports to management when required. Minimum Skills Required: · Relevant service engineering experience · Microsoft Certified Professional status Excellent knowledge of our supported software and technologies Strong interpersonal skills required to effectively communicate with users and vendors Passion for teamwork, continuing education, problem solving and exceptional customer service· Must be well spoken, outgoing, organised, detailed-orientated, dependable and flexible Detailed experience with HP, SonicWALL and Cisco solutions advantageous· Valid current driver's license This Position Entails:· Troubleshooting user problems over the phone and with remote control technologies Accurate documentation of all activities conducted Field based support and installation work Participating in the weekly on call' rota for out-of-hours support The ability to manage, maintain, troubleshoot and support our users' networks, equipment, software and services · The ability to learn quickly and adapt to changing requirements The Successful Candidate must be: · Professional and articulate Interpersonally adept Technically proficient A relationship builder A problem solver In addition to the salary for this post there are non-contractual bonuses to be earned for meeting utilisation, compliance and customer service requirements. Qualified candidates please download the application form at www.bcs-online.co.uk/application.pdf - If you have any questions regarding this position, please contact Gareth Johns on 01843 572604 or email gareth.johns@bcs-online.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Business Computer Solutions
gareth,johns@bcs-online.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

IT Support person

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Full-time IT Support person for award-winning media companyReporting to the IT DirectorThe successful applicant will need to demonstrate they have the ability and experience to support our Network, Servers, Computers and Telecommunications systems.A good knowledge of Microsoft server 2000/2003, Windows XP, Apple OSX, QuarkXpress and Photoshop is essential.You will be responsible for maintaining our servers and computers and responding to support requests from our 60-plus users. We offer an excellent basic salary, 5 weeks annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after a qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to: sandra.waghorn@kosmedia.co.ukor in writing to Sandra Waghorn,ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth,Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS
To apply/more information:
KOS Media
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

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Leisure, Tourism, Travel

HEAD RECEPTIONIST

Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
Exciting Opportunity to join Broome Park Country Club's dynamic Reception Team Diamond Resorts International is seeking a Head Receptionist - Temporary for six months40 hours per week We are seeking a customer focused and flexible individual to manage the smooth running of our reception area and small team. Key responsibilities include; customer care, cash handling, telephony, communication with other departments and general administration. Customer service skills, computer literacy, a pleasant manner and hands on approach are essential for this role. This is a full time position working five days per week on a rota basis to include evenings and some weekends. Previous experience in a similar role or supervisory position is preferred. For more details or to apply please email Clare.croose@diamondresorts.com or contact Clare Croose on 01227 831 701 We are an equal opportunity employer.
To apply/more information:
Diamond Resorts
clare.croose@
diamondresorts.com
Quoting Job Ref:

Management, Senior Positions

RECEPTION MANAGER

Kent
Negotiable depending upon experience
Dover Marina Hotel to start as soon as possible Leaf hotels are currently looking to recruit a RECEPTION MANAGER to assist in the running of their most recent acquisition, the 80 bedroom Dover Marina Hotel which is located in the heart of Dover prestigious marina area. The Dover Marina Hotel is at present being extensively renovated and refurbished and is due to open in the last week in November initially as a 3 star hotel but with the aim of becoming a 4 star hotel at the next QIT assessment Leaf hotels are eager to recruit a capable and experienced career driven professional to join their progressive team. The successful candidate will report to the Dover Marina Hotel, General Manager and will be responsible for reception, reservations and the night team. The duties will involve • Maintenance of 3rd Party Websites • Setting, training and maintaining all Reception standards, procedures and practices. • Managing and rostering a team of reception and night staff to cover a 24 hour operation • In cooperation with the Group Revenue Manager securing maximum room yield from activity. • Contributing to the recruitment, selection and training of departmental staff. • Controlling and managing the direct billing and aged debtors function. • Carrying out regular Duty Management shifts with responsible for The Hotel whilst on Duty. • Managing the Group Reservation system Contact: General Manager Email: david@ramadadover.co.uk Address:Dover Marina Hotel, Dover Waterfront, Dover, Kent CT17 9BP.
To apply/more information:
Dover Marina
david@ramadadover.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: TB/0610/dm

Marketing, Advertising

Sales Executive

Gravesend
Salary £16,000 basin
Approved Business is one of the fastest growing B2B web directories in the UK We are currently looking to expand our 10 strong sales team. We are looking for highly motivated individuals who are looking for an exciting career in the world of Online Advertising. The successful applicants should have excellent communication skills, and have at least 1 year's experience of selling online advertising, be self motivated, and hungry for success. If you would like to be considered for such a role, please contact Alex on 01474 359 527.
To apply/more information:
AJP Publishing
alex@carehomenet.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Media sales Executive

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
An expanding, national publisher with a solidreadership and customer base, requires an experienced person to join our successful, multi-media advertising team. Reporting to the Commercial Manager, you will need to be positive and creative with a flexible, hard working attitude. Experience in media sales is essential. You must have a long term approach to building customer rapport and generating new business. You will be able to work accurately under pressure to meet weekly and monthly deadlines. You need to be organized and have very good communication skills, both over the phone and face to face. Salary: Please specify salary expectation. Hours: Monday - Friday 9 am - 5 pmHolidays: 5 Weeks per annum. Benefits: Pension To apply for this role please send CV to: Debbie Broom, Administration Manager,Dog World Limited, Williamson House, Wotton Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 6LWor email: debbie.broom@dogworld.co.uk Closing date: October 20th, 2010.
To apply/more information:
Dog World
debbie.clark@dogworld.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Not for profit, Charities

Bereavement Service Programme Manager

Medway
Salary equivalent to NHS Band 6
Bereavement Service Programme ManagerPart time, Medway based
Holding On, Letting Go is a local charityproviding a grief support service for children, young people and their families in Kent. We are seeking a part time Programme Manager to lead the bereavement service. Applications are invited from people working in health, social care or the voluntary sector who have a qualification in counselling, psychotherapy or family therapy Key requirements of the post include: Extensive experience of working therapeutically with children, adults and families who have experienced loss and bereavement Excellent communication skills Willingness to work flexibly including evenings and weekends Car driver This post is currently based in Medway,2 days/week for 3 years fixed term**Salary** equivalent to NHS Band 6For an further details please contact Ann Hanson (Trustee) on 01634 830456 ann.hanson@nhs.net and visit our web site at www.holdingonlettinggo.org.ukF or a job description and application form please contact Vanessa Savidge on V.Savidge@nhs.net Closing date October 25thCharity no:1103835
To apply/more information:
Holding on Letting go
V.Savidge@nhs.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

QUALIFIED, REGISTERED DENTAL NURSE

Tonbridge
Salary Negotiable
QUALIFIED, REGISTERED DENTAL NURSE REQUIRED FULL-TIME OR PART TIME FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE MONTH . PLEASE CALL FOR DETAILS 01732 363 413 AT 13 LONDON ROAD, TONBRIDGE.
To apply/more information:
George Krajewski Dental Practice
george.krajewski@sky.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

LEAD DISPENSER

Lenham
Salary Negotiable
LEAD DISPENSER REQUIREDWe require a full-time (37 hrs), qualified dispenser (at least NVQ2), with management experience or potentialWe are a busy, friendly medical centre in Lenham with an excellent team of GPs and staff. If you already lead a team or consider that you could be a good manager, then please give us a call.You must have a flexibility to work between 8.30am - 6.30pm and be motivated and hard-working. Salary dependent upon experience. Management training provided.Enquiries to Sandra Paterson, Dispensary Manager, sandra.paterson@nhs.netTel: 01622 852901 Closing date: Monday 25th October 2010.
To apply/more information:
Len Valley Practice
diane.anderson@nhs.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Sales People

London & South East
Salary Competitive
A superb opportunity has arisen to join one of the UK's leading maintenance and installers of access equipment. They have arguably the best reputation in the UK and pride themselves upon high quality and service. To build upon longstanding success they require a dynamic self motivated sales person who can help them maintain and develop the growth of the business. In return they will offer a competitive salary with company vehicle. The role will be to manage existing accounts as well as winning new business in installation and service. You will be mainly working in London and the South East. The role will also involve contact on a daily basis with an existing variety of customers in which it will be essential to maintain good relationships. You will be computer literate and have experience in a similar background, selling a service not just making a sale. A proven track record is essential. If you would like to be considered for this position, please forward your CV with a covering letter stating why you are suitable for this role to HR Dept Box 126, Applebarn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS.
To apply/more information:
Introland
tony@introland.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Field Sales Roles

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
Love Speaking to People But Tired of Call Centres? Our Client has been voted THE top telecommunications provider in the UK. Due to the success of our ongoing campaigns and the results we produce we are experiencing a heightened level of consumer demand, resulting in the expansion of our field sales department. Forget behind-the-scenes, this is a high-impact, high visibility opportunity where every day will be a different challenge - and it will be down to you to inspire, motivate and deliver every time. You will be motivated, confident and outgoing with good interpersonal skills. You will think like a leader with a positive attitude and be prepared to develop and grow. This opportunity covers various aspects of the marketing and field sales industry· Engaging with clients and customers, representing the brand at all times · Generating brand awareness and understanding· Producing accurate and appropriate written correspondence Analysing campaigns effectiveness Driving clients brand through sales and excellent customer service Working at J-K Marketing Services will provide you access to industry related events and seminars and ongoing development. If you believe you can rise to the challenge and you share our passion for excellence in all areas of field sales we would love to hear from you. Please send a cover letter with your CV to admin@jkmarketing services.com for immediate consideration or alternatively call 01622 691 730 for an immediate appointment.
All applicants must be 18+ years of age and available for full time hours.
To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@
jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Co-Ordinator

Borough Green
Salary c£16,500 + excellent benefits
Our client is looking for someone with experience of working with a sales administration and pressurised environment. Duties will include handling quotes, processing orders through to delivery including liaison with transport and clients and upselling where possible. You will have excellent communication skills and high levels of drive and motivation. Rota's shifts are 8.00 - 4.00 and 9.00 - 5.00.
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1704

MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES SAGA HOLIDAYS

Folkestone
Salary £16,874 _Çô £22,280
MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES - SAGA HOLIDAYSPermanent and fixed-term contracts£16,874 - £22,280 + excellent benefits | FolkestoneWith a sound knowledge of direct marketing, you're on the lookout for a bigger role with real responsibility. We have openings on a permanent and fixed-term basis for either graduates (ideally with a relevant degree or equivalent) or experienced marketing professionals. So join us - and take control of a multi-million pound budget as you drive the success of key marketing programmes. As well as generating new customers, you'll implement our strategy to cross-sell to existing clients. The ability to build strong working relationships is important, and you should be able to manage multiple projects too. Experience of running major DM campaigns would be ideal, though it's not essential if you've the ambition to develop your skills. Part of the Acromas Group, Saga Holidays is one of the UK's leading and most trusted brands.To apply, please write enclosing your CV and salary expectations to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk Please quote reference number SH447/KOS in your application. Closing date: Friday 22 October 2010.
saga.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Saga
human.resources@saga.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: SH447/KOS

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01303 817040

Sales Executive

Gravesend
Salary £16,000 basin
Approved Business is one of the fastest growing B2B web directories in the UK
We are currently looking to expand our 10 strong sales team. We are looking for highly motivated individuals who are looking for an exciting career in the world of Online Advertising. The successful applicants should have excellent communication skills, and have at least 1 year's experience of selling online advertising, be self motivated, and hungry for success. If you would like to be considered for such a role, please contact Alex on 01474 359 527.
To apply/more information:
AJP Publishing
alex@carehomenet.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Media Sales Executives

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Media Sales ExecutivesWe have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines. We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers. We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation. Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to: sandra.waghorn@kosmedia.co.ukor in writing to Sandra Waghorn,ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth,Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS
To apply/more information:
KOS Media
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Media sales Executive

Ashford
Salary Salary Negotiable
Media sales Executive
An expanding, national publisher with a solidreadership and customer base, requires an experienced person to join our successful, multi-media advertising team. Reporting to the Commercial Manager, you will need to be positive and creative with a flexible, hard working attitude. Experience in media sales is essential. You must have a long term approach to building customer rapport and generating new business. You will be able to work accurately under pressure to meet weekly and monthly deadlines. You need to be organized and have very good communication skills, both over the phone and face to face. Salary: Please specify salary expectation. Hours: Monday - Friday 9 am - 5 pmHolidays: 5 Weeks per annum. Benefits: Pension To apply for this role please send CV to: Debbie Broom, Administration Manager,Dog World Limited, Williamson House, Wotton Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 6LWor email: debbie.broom@dogworld.co.uk Closing date: October 20th, 2010.
To apply/more information:
Dog World
debbie.clark@dogworld.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

Transport Planning Assistant

Sittingbourne
Salary Negotiable
Transport Planning Assistant
Tasks to include tachograph administration, placing orders, driver liaison, PODs.
Applicant must have experience and be computer literate.
Shift system in operation.
Please send covering letters and CV's to Box 127, Applebarn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SSor email: lucy.williams@kosmedia.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Transport Company
lucy.williams@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

HIGHWAYS – District of Ashford

MOUNTS LANE, ROLVENDEN - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of the installation of a new water mains, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mounts Lane, Rolvenden, on or after 18 October 2010 for up to 10 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with A28 Rolvenden Hill and Pix's Lane.

The alternative route is via A28 Tenterden Road, High Street, Maytham Road and Pix's Lane.

VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD - (WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2010 (STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2010. ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council has made an Order under Sections 1, 2. 32, 35 and 124 and Parts III and IV of Schedule 9 under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which has introduced a Residents Parking Zone with Time Limited Parking Bays in Victoria Crescent and Time Limited Parking Bays only in Bowens Field (Main Road) and Jemmett Road (part), Ashford.

A copy of the Orders which shall come into operation on Monday 18th October, 2010, an explanatory statement and a map showing the roads affected may be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ and Ashford Borough Council Offices, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

QUEENS ROAD, WHITSTABLE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works to replace kerbs and reconstruct footways, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Queens Road, Whitstable, on or after 18 October 2010 for up to 17 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in phases as follows:

Between Graystone Road and Bennells Avenue from 18 October 2010 for up to 8 weeks.
The alternative route is via Graystone Road, Northwood Road and Pier Avenue

Between St Anne's Road and Graystone Road from approximately 6 December 2010 for up to 4 working weeks.
The alternative route is via St Anne's Road, Northwood Road and Graystone Road.

Between Castle Road and St Anne's Road from approximately 17 January 2011 for up to 5 weeks.
The alternative route is via Church Road, Northwood Road and St Anne's Road.

The dates of the second and third phases are approximate guidelines, and may vary subject to weather and ground conditions. The exact dates will be notified to local residents and signposted on site.

The various side roads joining Queen's Road will be closed at their junctions with Queen's Road as the works progress, but can still be accessed from their junctions with Northwood Road.

EDDINGTON LANE, HERNE BAY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of water mains replacement works, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Eddington Lane, Herne Bay, on or after 4 November 2010 for up to 13 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with A291 Canterbury Road and Eddington Way.

The alternative route is via A291 Canterbury Road, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way and Eddington Way.

The road will be closed in phases, as advised and signposted on site. The direction that residents can reach their homes will also be signposted.

Works will start from the Canterbury Road end working westwards. The exact timings of the phases will depend on the progress of the works.

Note that the road will be re-opened for approximately 2 weeks over the Christmas period.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

GLADSTONE ROAD, WALMER - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of service connection works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Gladstone Road, Walmer, on or after 23 October 2010 for up to 9 calendar days or until the works have been completed.

Gladstone Road will be closed outside number 184. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Cornwall Road and Canada Road.

The alternative route is via Cornwall Road, A258 Dover Road and Canada Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Sevenoaks

GRANVILLE ROAD SEVENOAKS - (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by h vehicular traffic on Granville Road Sevenoaks from its junction with London Road to boundary with Granville Court on or after Monday 18th October 2010 for a period of up to 15 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is via: Gordon Road, Argyle Road, London Road, Tubbs Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate construction of a new highway retaining structure.

Purelake New Homes Ltd. apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Kevin Crew on 0208 244 2420.

WOOD STREET AND SWANLEY VILLAGE ROAD, SWANLEY (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an order an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Wood Street and Swanley Village Road between at the junction with School Lane and Church Road on or after 18th October for a period of up to 4 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is via Swanley Lane, High Street, B2173 London Road, A20 London Road, Main Road, Dartford Road, A225 Main Road and Ship Lane.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works to lay high and low voltage mains. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Steve Bicknell of Murphy's on 0800 083 5234.

BOTSOM LANE, WEST KINGSDOWN - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Botsom Lane, West Kingsdown from its junction with London Road for a distance of 100m.

The Order will become effective on 18th October 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 4 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: London Road, School Lane, Knatts Lane, Knatts Valley Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate drainage improvement works.

MANSE WAY, SWANLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Manse Way, Swanley for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 18th October 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 20th October 2010 and last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

SPRING HILL, PENSHURST - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Spring Hill, Penshurst from Colliersland Bridge to 20m north of Brooklands Farm Close.

The Order will become effective on 1st November 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 8 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the restriction above will be via: A264 Ashurst Road Stonecross, A264 Langton Road Langton Green, A264 Bishops Down, A264 Mount Ephram, A26 St Johns Road, A26 London Road Southborough, B2176 Bidborough Ridge Bidborough, B2176 Penshurst Road Penshurts, B2176 Rouges Hill Penshurst, B2188 Fordcombe Road Penshurst, B2188 New Road Penshurst, B2188 Saints Hill Penshurst and B2188 Spring Hill Penshurst.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a main renewal scheme.

A25 SEAL ROAD, SEVENOAKS AND HIGH STREET, SEAL (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that the Kent County Council proposes to make the above named Orders under section 82(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the Order will reduce the length of 40 mph speed limit in A25 Seal Road, Sevenoaks and High Street, Seal to the following lengths of road (extending the 30 mph speed limit):

From a point 7 metres east of the eastern boundary of property number 192a Seal Road, Sevenoaks to a point 5 metres east of the junction of High Street, Seal and Seal Drive.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, between 9.00am and 5.00pm.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to Kent Highway Services, Transportation & Development Team (Sevenoaks), First Floor, St Lawrence House, 48a West Hill, Dartford, DA1 2EU by noon on Monday 8 November 2010.

HIGHWAYS – District of Shepway

RADNOR STREET, FOLKESTONE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement works, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Radnor Street, Folkestone, on or after 1 November 2010 for up to 5 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Tram Road. There will be no access for though traffic between Tram Road and The Stade area.

The alternative routes are:

East bound (to The Stade) via A260 Tontine Street, A2033 Dover Road, Southern Way, Warren Road, Wear Bay Crescent, Wear Bay Road, East Cliff Gardens, The Durlocks and North Street.

West bound (from The Stade) via North Street, The Durlocks, East Cliff Gardens, Wear Bay Road, Wear Bay Crescent, Warren Road and Tram Road.

SIR JOHN MOORE AVENUE, HYTHE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of junction modifications and the construction of a delivery access into the new Sainsbury's, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sir John Moore Avenue, Hythe, on or after 1 November 2010 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the east junction with Military Road.

The alternative route is via the west junction with Military Road.

HIGHWAYS – District of Swale

PLOUGH ROAD, EASTCHURCH - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of water mains renewal, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Plough Road, Eastchurch, on or after 18 October 2010 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Warden Road and Garretts Farm. There will be no access for though traffic between the B2008 Eastchurch Road and Warden Road.

The alternative route is via High Street, Lower Road, B2008 Eastchurch Road, Plough Road, Marrowbone Hill and Plough Road.

STONEBRIDGE WAY, FAVERSHAM - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Stonebridge Way, Faversham, on or after 4 November 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed to through traffic from the junction with Beech Close to north of the junction with Finlay Close.

The alternative routes are:

Eastbound via Beech Close, Lower Road, South Road, Napleton Road, Tanners Street, West Street and Stonebridge Way

Westbound via Stonebridge Way, West Street, South Road, Lower Road and Beech Close.

Access to Chart Close, Nobel Court and Finlay Close will be maintained whenever safe to do so, with the direction of approach advised and signed on site.

It is planned that the works will be carried out each day between the hours of 8.00 am and 7.00 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

HIGHWAYS – District of Thanet

KING STREET & DANE ROAD, MARGATE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on King Street & Dane Road, Margate, on or after 21 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Trinity Hill/Hawley Street and Park Road.

The alternative routes are:

Eastbound via B2055 Hawley Street, Union Crescent, Addington Road, Victoria Road, Thanet Road, Park Road

Westbound via Wilderness Hill, B2055 Northdown Road, Trinity Square and Trinity Hill.

Note that access to Dane Hill (one-way Street) will be maintained from Addington Street.

KING STREET, MARGATE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of BT works to remove overhead cables and replace them with underground cables, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on King Street, Margate, on or after 1 November 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

King Street will be closed outside numbers 14-18. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Hawley Street/Trinity Hill and Broad Street. Access to Alkali Row will be maintained.

The alternative route is via Trinity Hill, Trinity Square, Fort Crescent, Fort Hill and Fort Road.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of King Street will be suspended, between the junctions with Hawley Street/ Trinity Hill and the point of closure, when the appropriate signs are covered or removed.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

BELLS FARM ROAD, EAST PECKHAM - (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Bells Farm Road between Orchard Lodge and number 458 on or after Tuesday 2nd November 2010 when required for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Stanford Lane, A26 Maidstone Road, Court Lane.

EDF Energy Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to upgrade overhead power lines. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Ed Spalding on 01342 413633.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Swan at the Vineyard, The Down, Lamberhurst**

Applicant: **Martin Potter**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
1st Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, ME14 1XX

Kent County Council

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Ganeshan Manoharan of 94 Portland Avenue, Gravesend, DA12 5HF has applied to Gravesham Borough Council for the variation of sale of alcohol hours Monday to Sunday 6am until 11pm for the premises Dover Road Stores situated at 35-37 Dover Road, Northfleet, DA11 9PH. A register of licensing applications can be inspected at http://www.gravesham.gov.uk/licensing or at Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1AU tel. 01474 337334 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday. Any person wishing to submit representations to my application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 22nd October 2010. The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

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LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT/VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE

Notice is hereby given that Norman Davidson has applied to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for a grant/variation of a Premises Licence in respect of premises known as Spadework Ltd, Teston Road, Offham, West Malling, Kent ME19 5NA.
The application seeks the licence in respect of the following:
The sale of alcohol: Monday to Sunday 0900 – 2300;
Regulated entertainment: 1200 – 2300 indoors; 1200 – 2100 outdoors.
Details of the register of record of the application can be viewed at the Tonbridge and Malling Council Offices (Licensing Department), Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling during normal office hours. Any representations from interested parties or responsible authorities must be made in writing to the Council by 15 November 2010.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction is a fine not exceeding £5,000.00

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Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/03044/HOUSE The White House High Street, Brenchley
- Rear extension and alterations including new boundary wall (LB) (CA)

10/03046/LBC The White House High Street, Brenchley
- Listed Building Consent - Rear extension and alterations including new boundary wall (LB)

10/03167/FUL Cowden Mill Barn Horsmonden Road, Brenchley
- Removal of Condition 2 of TW/00/00913 to allow converted cold store to be a separate residential unit (LB) (PROW)

10/03156/FUL Highgate House 32A Broadwater Down, Broadwater
- Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling with garage (CA)

10/03141/FULMJ Stables Bank Farm, Capel
- Erection of a covered sand school, formation of outdoor sand school, manure barn and new stables within existing barn (MAJOR) (PROW)

10/03162/FUL 4 Clanricarde Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Removal of Conditions 3 and 4 of TW/06/01634 to allow use of first and second floors as children's nursery and the outside space at rear as a play area (CA)

10/03176/TELN5 Pavement Outside Boyne House, Culverden
- Telecommunication Notification - Installation of a 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03188/TELN5 Pavement Outside Smart And Simple Hotels 55 - 57 London Road, Culverden
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03192/TELN5 Pavement Adjoining Currys, Culverden
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03195/TELN5 Land Outside Regina Court Molyneux Park Road, Culverden
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03208/TELN5 Pavement Outside Russell Hotel In Lime Hill Road 80 London Road, Culverden
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03295/FUL 32 Church Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Change of use of 1st floor and basement to residential use connected; Existing ground floor residential independent flat to remain (amendment to planning permission TW/05/02118) (CA) (LB)

10/03155/LBC Hammonds Barn Crowbourne Lane, Goudhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Installation of woodburning stove on a slate base with a 150mm flue rising no more than 650mm above the apex of the roof (LB)

10/03151/FUL North Hill Saw Mill North Hill Road, Hawkhurst
- Relocation of access road leading to sawmills and conversion of redundant buildings to form self contained dwelling (CA)

10/03053/HOUSE 9 Claremont Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Dormer window to existing roof line to form bedroom in roofspace (LB) (CA)

10/03186/TELN5 Pavement Opposite No.13 Mount Sion, Pantiles & St Marks
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03196/TELN5 Pavement Outside 23 Frant Road, Pantiles & St Marks
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03197/TELN5 Pavement Outside 36 Frant Road, Pantiles & St Marks
- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03210/TELN5 Outside 9 Nevill Street Warwick Park, Pantiles & St Marks
- Telecommunication Notification: Installation of 1.6m high telecommunication cabinet (CA)

10/03294/FUL 45 High Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Replacement of existing shop front and 3 no. doors (CA)

10/03190/TELN5 Pavement Near Junction Of Claremont Road Grove Hill Road, Park
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03191/TELN5 Land At Junction Of Meadow Hill Road Grove Hill Road, Park
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03202/TELN5 Outside 60 & 62 Calverley Road, Park
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03204/TELN5 Pavement Opposite 39 Calverley Street, Park
- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03205/TELN5 Pavement Outside 47 High Street, Park
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03206/TELN5 Pavement Outside Kingswood Place, Park
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03244/HOUSE Blackhurst Park Halls Hole Road, Park
- Extension to existing terrace of 2 dwellings - single storey rear extension and first floor extension at east end (LB) (CA)

10/03249/LBC Blackhurst Park Halls Hole Road, Park
- Listed Building Consent: Extension to existing terrace of 2 dwellings - single storey rear extension and first floor extension at east end (LB)

10/02988/FULMJ The Priory Romford Road, Pembury
- Redevelopment of site to provide a replacement care home (Class C2) (MAJOR)

10/03112/FULMJ Garden Centre Tonbridge Road, Pembury
- New garden centre with associated parking and access (MAJOR)

10/03231/FUL Burnt Farmhouse Rye Road, Sandhurst
- Erection of six dwellings with associated garaging, parking and amenity areas. Erection of a new leisure building for the use of the existing farmhouse (LB)

10/03194/TELN5 Land Outside Of Pennington Recreation Ground London Road, Southborough And High Brooms
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03193/TELN5 Land Outside Greenside London Road, Southborough North
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03163/FUL Kenwood House 1 Upper Grosvenor Road, St James
- Alterations to building to create two retail units fronting Upper Grosvenor Road and first floor extension on west side of building to create additional office floorspace (CA)

10/03198/TELN5 Pavement Opposite 8 St James Road, St James
- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Dated: 16 October 2010

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Time machines

By **STEVE LOADER**

LIKE the Grim Reaper, car depreciation seems unavoidable and dispects status.

From the luxury limo to the humble hatchback, most new cars lose a wad of money the minute they're driven off the dealer forecourt, but while some carry on plummeting, a few arrest their decline and may even become the valuable collectors' cars of the future.

But which are these so-called future classics?

British Car Auctions (BCA), the nationwide group with a site at Paddock Wood, suggests some that may gain such status while remaining affordable – for now.

But BCA spokesman Tim Naylor warned: "Second guessing future trends is never an exact science – after all who would have thought the 1980s would get fashionable again? In the collectors' car market, beauty really is in the eye of the beholder.

"Rarity does not necessarily make for desirability, nor does an exclusive and limited model run and high 'list price' necessarily mean a car will be worth more in years to come."

Here are BCA's Top Five Future Classics of the past decade:

- BMW Mini – always desirable, with early Mini One models holding their values well, selling for around £3,500-4,000 even at 100k mileages. Demand is highest for convertibles, while the Clubman and new Countryman models are other possible classics to come.
- VW Beetle – another retro car and, with production due to stop soon, it could be the time to buy. Early saloons are affordable between £3,000-4,000, but even the earliest cabriolets remain expensive at £7,000-8,000 at a sensible mileage.
- Citroën C3 Pluriel – good value at around £2,000 for early ones on 60,000 miles. It can be a convertible or even a 'pick-up' with the rear seats folded – useability and eccentricity that may bestow collectable status.
- Mazda RX8 – affordable and quirky enough, with its rotary engine and rear-ward-opening 'suicide doors', to go classic and currently a steal at £3,000 for an early 50,000-miler.
- Vauxhall Omega V6 – these ceased production in 2003, but £2,000 buys a decent late 70k miler; a top-spec 2003-reg 3.2 V6 Elite will be nearer £3,000.

Two-seater sports cars are good bet too says BCA. The Mazda MX-5 re-introduced the traditional two-seat roadster to the mainstream and early ones are relatively cheap to buy, but there are lots around.

The relatively rare and free-revving Honda S2000 could be a better bet and the even scarcer Lotus Elise and closely-related Vauxhall VX220 are other strong contenders.

MG-Rover's long-term 'classic' legacy is difficult to judge so soon after its demise, but BCA believes the MG-F and TF roadsters can only appreciate now – a well-preserved MG-F can be bought for under £1,000 and an MG-TF for around £2,500.

Of the saloons, the Rover 75 and ZT 260 SE V8s are the pick of the bunch with their Ford Mustang 4.6-litre engines – pay around £4,000 for a late-2004 Rover version at 80,000 miles, but the MG will be double that.

Back in the present, the Fiat 500 combines a classic shape with contemporary design and engineering and should hold its value well, as will any performance badged cars such as RS-badged Fords, Fiat Abarths, Renaultsports, BMW-M series and WRX Subarus.

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2009(58) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 8000 miles, ... £12,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles, ... £11,495
2010(10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles, ... £10,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles, ... £10,995
2010(60) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 800 miles, ... £10,995
2009(09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles, ... £10,995
2010(60) CITROEN NEMO 8V HDI TURBO MPV AUTO, RED, 100 miles, ... £10,495
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles, ... £9,995
2010(59) FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 miles, ... £9,995
2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles, ... £9,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles, ... £9,495
2009(59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 miles, ... £8,995
2009(09) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles, ... £7,995

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS

2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 20000 miles, ... £26,000
2008(57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 miles, ... £10,995
2008(08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles, ... £9,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles, ... £8,995
2006(06) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, RED, 21000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles, ... £7,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles, ... £7,995
2006(06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles, ... £7,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles, ... £7,995
2006(06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles, ... £7,995
2005(05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles, ... £6,995
2005(55) VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT MANUAL COUPE, BLACK, 26000 miles, ... £6,995

FIESTA

2006(56) FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 1600 miles, yes really under 2000 miles from new £5,995

FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

2009(09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles, ... £10,995
2008(58) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles, ... £9,995
2008(57) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles, ... £8,995
2008(08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles, ... £6,995
2007(07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles, ... £6,995
2007(07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 14000 miles, ... £6,995
2005(55) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 miles, ... £6,495

FOCUS ESTATES

2006(56) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles, ... £7,495
2007(07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles, ... £6,995
2006(56) FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles, ... £5,995

RENAULT SCENIC

2010(59) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles, ... £15,995
2007(07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles, ... £8,995
2008(57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 13000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 6000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles, ... £6,995
2006(56) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles, ... £6,495
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles, ... £6,495
2004(54) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE 16V MPV AUTO, BLACK, 27000 miles, ... £5,495

RENAULT

2010(60) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 800 miles, ... £10,995
2008(57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 miles, ... £10,995
2008(08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles, ... £9,995
2008(08) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles, ... £8,995
2008(58) RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION VVT 111 ESTATE CAR ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 600 miles, ... £8,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles, ... £8,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles, ... £7,995
2006(06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles, ... £7,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(58) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles, ... £6,995
2008(58) RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles, ... £6,995
2005(05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles, ... £6,995
2006(56) RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOURER 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles, ... £6,995
2006(06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, GOLD, 17000 miles, ... £5,995
2007(07) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles, ... £5,995
2007(07) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, RED, 13000 miles, ... £5,495
2005(05) RENAULT MODUS PRIVILEGE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 39000 miles, ... £4,995

CHEVROLET

2008(08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles, ... £6,995
2009(58) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles, ... £6,995
2009(09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles, ... £6,995
2008(58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles, ... £6,995
2009(09) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1200 miles, ... £6,495
2008(08) CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles, ... £5,995
2008(08) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles, ... £5,995
2008(57) CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles, ... £5,495
2007(07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles, ... £4,995
2007(07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles, ... £4,995
2007(07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles, ... £4,995
2008(58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles, ... £4,995
2006(56) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles, ... £4,995

DAIHATSU

2008(08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles, ... £7,495
2007(07) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles, ... £6,995
2007(07) DAIHATSU SIRION 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles, ... £6,995

HYUNDAI

2008(08) HYUNDAI COUPE SII COUPE AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles, ... £9,995
2007(56) HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, RED, 4000 miles, ... £8,995
2008(58) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles, ... £5,995
2007(57) HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles, ... £5,995
2006(56) HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 miles, ... £5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 miles, ... £5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles, ... £5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles, ... £5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI MATRIX CLASSIC MPV, BLACK, 8000 miles, ... £5,995
2007(07) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles, ... £5,495
2007(57) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 9000 miles, ... £5,495

KIA

2008(58) KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles, ... £6,995
2009(09) KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 2000 miles, ... £6,995
2005(05) KIA CERATO LX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 27000 miles, ... £3,495

BMW

2005(55) BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING 6SPD MANUAL TD ESTATE, GREY, 5100 miles, ... £11,995

FIAT

2006(56) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles, ... £4,995
2007(56) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 25000 miles, ... £4,995

FUSION

2010(59) FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 miles, ... £9,995
2008(08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 3000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles, ... £5,995

CITROEN

2010(60) CITROEN NEMO 8V HDI TURBO MPV AUTO, RED, 100 miles, ... £10,495
2008(58) CITROEN C4 SX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1800 miles, ... £8,995
2002(02) CITROEN SAXO DESIRE 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 54000 miles, ... £2,995

MONDEO

2006(56) FORD MONDEO LX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 24000 miles, ... £6,995

CORSA

2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles, ... £11,495
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles, ... £10,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles, ... £9,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles, ... £8,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles, ... £8,495
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles, ... £8,495
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles, ... £8,495
2007(57) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 miles, ... £6,995
2006(56) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAUVE, 19000 miles, ... £6,495
2005(05) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN CDTI 16V 5DR TD HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 65000 miles, ... £3,995

MAZDA

2008(58) MAZDA 5 5 TS2 MPV AUTO, RED, 12000 miles, ... £11,995
2008(58) MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles, ... £9,995
2007(57) MAZDA 3 3 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles, ... £8,995
2006(56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles, ... £7,995
2006(56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(56) MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles, ... £5,995

SUZUKI

2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles, ... £9,995
2007(07) SUZUKI IGNIS GL VVT-S 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 9000 miles, ... £5,995

TOYOTA

2007(6) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles, ... £13,995
2007(07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 16000 miles, ... £13,995
2007(07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, GREY, 16000 miles, ... £13,995
2007(07) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, RED, 25000 miles, ... £9,995
2007(07) TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(56) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 COLOUR COLLECTION VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(56) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, IXION BLUE, 13000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(07) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles, ... £8,995
2006(56) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles, ... £8,995
2008(58) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles, ... £8,495
2008(08) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 14000 miles, ... £7,995
2005(05) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles, ... £6,995
2005(55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles, ... £6,995
2004(54) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1750 miles, ... £6,995
2004(54) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles, ... £6,995
2007(07) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles, ... £6,995
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 6000 miles, ... £6,295
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles, ... £5,995

NISSAN

2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 11000 miles, ... £14,995
2007(07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles, ... £10,995
2007(07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 19000 miles, ... £10,995
2009(59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 miles, ... £8,995
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles, ... £8,995
2006(06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles, ... £7,995
2009(09) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, RED, 14000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles, ... £6,995
2007(07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 18000 miles, ... £5,995
2006(56) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles, ... £5,995
2007(07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFE LATTE, 8000 miles, ... £5,995
2007(07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 27000 miles, ... £5,995
2004(54) NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 31000 miles, ... £4,995
2004(04) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ARUBA BLUE, 12000 miles, ... £4,995
2004(04) NISSAN MICRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 27000 miles, ... £4,695
2002(52) NISSAN MICRA S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 47000 miles, ... £3,495

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE CDTI 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 11000 miles, ... £10,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 14000 miles, ... £9,995
2008(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 14000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 HATCH AUTO, SILVER, 9000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles, ... £6,995
2008(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 10000 miles, ... £5,995
2008(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 miles, ... £5,995
2004(54) VAUXHALL ASTRA CLUB 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 31000 miles, ... £4,995

ASTRA ESTATES

2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, ECLIPSE BLACK, 5000 miles, ... £9,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 15000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles, ... £6,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, SILVER, 14000 miles, ... £6,995
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 miles, ... £6,495
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles, ... £5,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles, ... £5,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

2009(59) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 miles, ... £13,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles, ... £12,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles, ... £10,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles, ... £9,495
2009(59) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles, ... £8,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles, ... £8,995
2009(59) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(07) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles, ... £8,495
2006(56) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 16000 miles, ... £7,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL AGILA CLUB MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, TURQUOISE, 7000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles, ... £6,995
2006(56) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles, ... £6,495
2008(58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles, ... £5,995

CHRYSLER

2007(57) CHRYSLER PT CRUISER LIMITED 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 13000 miles, ... £6,995

PEUGEOT

2009(09) PEUGEOT 308 SW S ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles, ... £9,995
2006(06) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, RED, 21000 miles, ... £8,995
2008(08) PEUGEOT 207 SPORT 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(57) PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 miles, ... £6,995
2007(07) PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 17000 miles, ... £6,495
2007(07) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 2-TRONIC 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles, ... £5,995
2006(56) PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles, ... £5,995
2006(56) PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles, ... £5,995

HONDA

2007(07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 24000 miles, ... £17,995
2007(07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 11000 miles, ... £15,995
2007(07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 19000 miles, ... £15,995
2007(07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SPORT ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles, ... £13,995
2006(06) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 26000 miles, ... £11,995
2009(58) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles, ... £10,995
2009(09) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles, ... £10,995
2007(07) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 8000 miles, ... £8,995
2006(56) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles, ... £7,995

MERCEDES

2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 20000 miles, ... £26,000
2007(57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 23000 miles, ... £13,995
2008(57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180 KOMPRESSOR SE SPORTS COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 22000 miles, ... £13,995
2009(58) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 8000 miles, ... £12,995
2007(07) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles, ... £9,995
2006(56) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 ELEGANCE SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles, ... £9,995
2006(56) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 ELEGANCE SE LWB 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 13000 miles, ... £9,995
2007(07) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE SWB HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles, ... £9,495
2003(53) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A140 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 46000 miles, ... £4,995

VOLKSWAGEN

2007(57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles, ... £11,995
2007(57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles, ... £9,995
2008(58) VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH 3DR AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 6000 miles, ... £7,995
2007(07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 22000 miles, ... £6,995
2005(05) VOLKSWAGEN POLO TWIST 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 30000 miles, ... £5,995
2003(53) VOLKSWAGEN POLO TWIST 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 41000 miles, ... £3,995
2003(53) VOLKSWAGEN POLO TWIST 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 73000 miles, ... £3,995
2001(Y) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 miles, ... £3,495

DIESEL AUTOMATICS

2009(09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles, ... £12,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE CDTI 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 11000 miles, ... £10,995

MORRIS'S MANUAL CARS

2005(55) BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING 6SPD MANUAL TD ESTATE, GREY, 5100 miles, ... £11,995
2006(M) SAAB 9-3 DTH VECTOR SPORT TD ESTATE, GREY, 26000 miles, ... £8,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL MERIVA ENERGY CDTI TD MPV, BLACK, 24000 miles, ... £6,995
2005(55) VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT MANUAL COUPE, BLACK, 26000 miles, ... £6,995
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles, ... £5,995
2006(56) VAUXHALL VECTRA VVT EXCLUSIV 5DR HATCH, SAPPHIRE BLACK, 26000 miles, ... £5,995
2007(07) KIA PICANTO LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 miles, ... £4,995
2008(58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles, ... £4,995
2008(08) RENAULT TWINGO DYNAMIQUE 3DR HATCH, ORANGE, 35000 miles, ... £4,995
2007(07) FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC 5DR HATCH, GREY, 8000 miles, ... £4,995
2004(04) PEUGEOT 206 SE 5DR HATCH, MOONSTONE SILVER, 36000 miles, ... £3,995
2005(54) VAUXHALL CORSA LIFE 12V TWINPORT 3DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles, ... £3,995
2005(05) VAUXHALL AGILA ENJOY 16V TWINPORT MPV, GOLD, 20000 miles, ... £3,995
2001(Y) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 miles, ... £3,495

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2001 BMW 320CI (individual) 62k, very rare, auto/manual £5,495
2006 VW POLO 1.2, 3dr hatch, met blue, new shape, manual, 40k, CD etc.....£4,995
2006 FORD FIESTA 1.25 Zetec Climate, 5dr, hatch, all extras, PAS, E/W, A/C, CD, gold, 48k, manual..£4,995
1998 BMW Z3 2.8, manual, elec roof, alloys £4,995
2004 PEUGOT 607 HDi saloon, silver, manual, alloys, luxury and economy £3,995
2003 ASTRA 1.8 SRI, 3 door hatch, black, alloys, CD, pas £2,995
2002 PEUGOT 206 QUICKSILVER 3 door hatchback, Silver with grey trim, lovely condition 64K.....£2,495
2001 FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX, 5 dr, hatch, black, alloys, air con, , CD, lovely condition.....£2,395
2002 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUBDi 1.7 diesel, 3 dr, hatch, bright red, E/W, PAS, C/L, FSH,
5 spd manual, low tax (£90 per year) and insurance (grp 3) and 58 mpg!.....£1,995
1998 VW PASSAT 1.8 2.0v Turbo, Saloon, 4 dr, metalic blue £1,895
1997 HONDA CRV 2.0 5 door MPV, 4W, sunroof, blue, manual.....£1,795
1999 ROVER 75 CLASSIC 2.0, auto, blue, immaculate condition.....£1,495
2000 CORSA 1.0 3 door hatch, black, low mileage.....£1,495
1999 FORD MONDEO 2.0 LX 5 door hatch, silver £995

CONVERTIBLES
1998 BMW Z3 2.8 manual, blue with black elec roof, alloys, wide wheel arch model £4,995
1997 VW GOLF 1.8 CABRIOLET met green, black hood, only 72k, from new.....£2,595
1998 MG TF Convertible 1.8, red, 66k.....£1,995

P/X BARGAINS TO CLEAR
1995 MITSUBISHI PAJERO (Shogun) SWB 2.8 INTERCOOLER, turbo diesel, auto, tax & mot £1,995
1999 PEUGEOT 406, 4 door saloon, 66k, fsh, silver, manual £1,995
2000 PEUGEOT 106 GTi 1600, 3 door hatch, red, alloys, a really quick and eye-catching example £1,995
1999 VW GOLF 1.6 SE newshape, 5 door hatch, light green, 68k £1,995
2000 VOLVO V40 1.6 estate, blue, all usual extras £1,995
2000 SMART4TWO PASSION, semi-auto, alloys, CD, Silver, LHD, ...£1,995
1999 RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 RT 5 door hatch, red, with contrasting interior £995
1999 NISSAN ALMERA 5 dr,hatch, met blue, auto, alloys, CD, rarely available in auto.....£995

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CITROËN

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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Focus looks sharp even on its run-out

OBLIVION is just around the corner for the current Ford Focus as a radical new model arrives next spring.

But canny marketeers at Ford know to dress a car on run-out and that is the reason why the new Focus Sport special edition looks so tempting with its ST hot hatchback-pattern 16-inch alloys, sat nav, Bluetooth and USB connectivity, voice control and rear parking sensors.

It also has seats trimmed to flagship Titanium level yet buyers get this £1,500 of extra kit for just £700 more than an equivalent Zetec model, and it is offered with the two most popular Focus engine options: a 1.6-litre petrol (£16,545) or same capacity diesel (£17,845).

So confident is Ford about its appeal that it is making no secret of the fact that this 'fully-loaded' five-door model will still be available after the new Focus goes on sale in early 2011.

Passat goes on and on and on…

VOLKSWAGEN'S Passat BlueMotion has set a new Guinness World Record for the longest distance travelled by a standard production passenger car on a tank of fuel.

The three-day record bid started from Maidstone and went to the South of France and almost made it back; the Passat finally ran out of fuel close to Calais after covering 1,526.63 miles and averaging nearly 90mpg – some 50 per cent better than its claimed average.

The route mainly followed French autoroutes, but included some town driving, resulting in an average speed of just over 45mph from 77.25 litres of standard forecourt diesel, with an overall fuel consumption of 89.83 miles per gallon.

The BlueMotion is powered by a VW 1.6-litre diesel developing 105 PS (102bhp) and, like similarly eco-friendly Polo and Golf BlueMotion models, has modified aerodynamics and a lower ride height, Stop/Start for reduced consumption and emissions in town traffic, programmed battery charging, longer gearing and low rolling resistance tyres.

Despite this, VW claims the Passat BlueMotion is completely conventional to drive, service and maintain.

Crossing over to bigger sales

NISSAN 'crossed over' into the big league in September when sales of its Qashqai and newly launched Juke (pictured) crossovers made it the UK's seventh most popular car brand.

Significantly, it was also fourth biggest in terms of sales to private buyers.

The Qashqai continues to drive Nissan's fortunes and help the UK balance of payments – much of the production from the Sunderland UK plant goes abroad – and UK sales have topped 30,000 so far this year – up 38 per cent on 2009.

But the Qashqai has a rival out the same factory; the smaller Juke sold 1,600 in its first week on sale and should maintain Nissan's upward momentum – its total sales in 2009 are up 21 per cent.

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Three into one does go

THESE are hard times economically and we all have to do our bit for the environment, so we are giving you three road tests in one here – green or what?

Look closely though and you will see that these three cars are virtually the same; the result of a Toyota-led project that manufactures the Toyota Aygo, Peugeot 107 and Citroën C1 from one production line in the Czech Republic.

The three manufacturers have used clever styling tweaks to blur such obvious cloning.

Of the trio, the Aygo is perhaps the most upmarket yet conservative, but actually starts from a lower price officially (£8,220), though you are less likely to get any discount or packages.

The Citroën and Peugeot both start from £8,495, with the former having the edge on style after a midlife makeover left the Peugeot looking like it has had a Dyson vacuum cleaner nozzle grafted onto its nose.

Citroën dabbled briefly with a diesel option but it was pricey and fairly pointless at this end of the market, so all three sisters have standardised on a lively little 68bhp 998cc three-cylinder petrol engine that will just about give you a 100mph maximum and 60mph in about 14 seconds in manual form – all three cars are available with an auto option too for real urban 'stop/go' traffic conditions.

But performance figures are an irrelevance here – this trio is about A to B motoring on the cheap.

They are city cars in size and available in three and five-door format – and you might as well have the latter for the sake of a few hundred quid – but they are not horrible on motorways and come with modern safety aids and build quality. The key point though is that they should average more than 60mpg and will incur no road tax in year one and just £20 a year thereafter – motoring doesn't come much cheaper than this.

ROAD TEST

by **STEVE LOADER**

Toyota **Aygo**, Peugeot **107** and Citroën **C1**

In everyday use, the Aygo/107/C1 is practical – the rear seats split/fold 50/50 – as well as stylish and spacious for its size, but it is strictly a four-seater and a tiny boot is accessed by a lift-up glass panel rather than a proper tailgate.

The steering and driving experience is light and nippy for in-town use though and, despite its compact size, the car has a wheelbase and low centre of gravity well able to smooth the bumps and corners.

The free-revving engine and easy gearbox even reveals a sporty edge reminiscent of the original Mini, though this will undoubtedly undo the economy drive that persuaded you to buy in the first place.

And, despite custom packs available you will also be hard-pressed to cut a dash like a modern Mini.

LOOKALIKES: (top to bottom) Toyota Aygo, Peugeot 107 and Citroën C1

Driving Portfolio

TOYOTA AYGO/PEUGEOT 107/CITROEN C1 (FROM £8,220)

Driving appeal	★★★
Image	★★★
Space	★★★
Value	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green	★★★★★
Road tax	£ zero year one then £20
Best rival	Fiat Panda

The Verdict

DON'T LIKE: Slight lack of substance, but modern engineering and full complement of safety kit

NOT SURE: There's any point in the diesel – petrol is the real deal on price and running costs

REALLY LIKE: Affordable, reliable green motoring with funkiness and choice of brand and style

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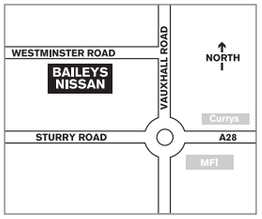

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Kia scores with the Venga

DrivingReview

by STEVE LOADER
CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Kia Venga

IT'S not hard to see why Kia launched the Venga earlier this year.

No, it's not intended to be a tribute to Arsenal's long-running soccer manager Arsène, but mini-MPVs like the Kia are where the crowds and the big money are.

Last month's Paris Motor Show proved the point as the wraps came off three big new players. Toyota unveiled the Verso-S, a rather belated though impressive challenger in a sector the Japanese giant claims to have invented with the original Yaris Verso (2000-2005), though it was so pug-ugly you could argue that Toyota nearly strangled a new niche at birth.

Hyundai chose Paris to reveal the ix20 – sister to the Venga, since Kia is the other half of the huge Hyundai group.

And Honda underlined how its Jazz – the car that started the whole mini-MPV thing in my opinion, and is now in its second generation – still offers clever variations on the theme in the form of a new hybrid petrol-electric version.

But the Venga is already out there, and though I had reservations at launch time, a week with the car really shouldered those aside and I use that expression deliberately, because it is interior width that impresses most.

Of course, a spacious cabin is a must in this class and the Venga uses a long wheelbase within compact overall dimensions disguised by clever lines – the deep crease across the doors squeezes the depth of the flanks and lowers the high roofline visually.

In short, it's a tidy looking and even elegant execution of a five-door shape expected to cram in so much.

And interior height, width and legroom is impressive; families will note that a genuine three-seater rear bench with a flat floor across the entire car – no discomfort for 'piggy in the middle' then – and space liberated by folding the rear seats flat is huge, so you are buying a van for the family fleet too.

The interior quality shows Kia's rapid progression from its no hoper 'Motor Show 1964' interiors of just a few years ago, to being the leading budget marque and Honda must be worried by the Venga's overall keen pricing (from £11,495) versus the Jazz, though the latter starts from £10,990.

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Range: Urban 42.8 (6.6)-21.5 (13.1), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2)-39.7 (7.1), Combined 55.4 (5.1)-30.3 (9.3), CO2 Emissions 119-234 g/km.

What's more, Kia used the Venga launch to extend its unique seven-year/100,000-mile warranty across the board; three years/60,000 miles is the industry norm and only Hyundai comes close with its five-year deal.

So, the Venga is not only clever and smart looking, but also a brilliant deal, except that the powertrains and ride quality can be coarse and the driving experience is fairly lacklustre.

After a week with the superior 89bhp 1.4-litre petrol model though, I don't see this as a deal breaker. It is a bit unrefined, but there is plenty of power even when you cram this little spaceship, while the mpg should average in the mid-40s. There is also a 124bhp 1.6-litre unit with an automatic 'box (from £14,100), but it is not particularly economical and high emissions make the road tax steep at £250 in year one and £180 thereafter.

There is an 89bhp diesel too (from £12,760) with Kia's low emissions and consumption EcoDynamics package including 'Intelligent Stop and Go' to automatically kill and revive the engine in turgid traffic conditions; it could give you an average of more than 60mpg and offers zero road tax in the first year and a pif-fling £30 after that. But it will cost you £1,300 more than a petrol equivalent, whatever trim you choose, and does feel lumpy – the petrol is livelier and simply nicer to be in.

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DrivingPortfolio

KIA VENGA 2 1.4 £16,450

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★★
Road tax	£125/year
Best rival	Honda Jazz

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the fairly average ride comfort and lumpy powertrains

NOT SURE: (as usual) that many ideal buyers can overlook Kia's budget badge

REALLY LIKE: the way the Venga does 'what it says on the tin' – and with a sense of style

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ALFA ROMEO

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159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air con alloys cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air con alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 70000 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air con alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, 1.4, 2001, silver, 98000 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A2, 1.4, 2001, silver, 98000 miles, £3000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A2, 1.4, 2001, silver, 98000 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, S3 QUATTRO, 2002, black, 81241 miles, £7500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, SE, 2002, abs brakes central locking electric windows power steering, ebony, 58920 miles, £5500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, TDI TDV S Line Multitronic, 2008, grey metallic, 25000 miles, £17000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, TDI 130 SE (6), 2004, blue, 25984 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, TDi TDV S Line Multitronic, 2008, blue, 37661 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 TDi S LINE, 2005, abs brakes diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, dolphin grey, 82000 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 TDi 170 S-LINE, 2006, dolphin grey, 30102 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A6, 3.0 TDI 233 Quattro SE 5dr Tip Auto, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags remote central locking, metallic quartz grey, 54647 miles, £14900, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A6, 3.0 TDI 233 Quattro SE 5dr Tip Auto, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags remote central locking, metallic quartz grey, 54647 miles, £14900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A6, 3.0 TDI 233 Quattro SE 5dr Tip Auto, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, metallic quartz grey, 54647 miles, £14900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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BMW

3 SERIES, SE, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking adjustable steering column rear headrests, silver, 59551 miles, £4900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 330i SE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloys automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid, silver, 9115 miles, £20000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318i SE, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering single cd player remote central locking, silver, 59551 miles, £5500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 3.0 330 Ci SPORT, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, silver, 84102 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 2.0 320d SE, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, blue, 81000 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

6 SERIES, 630I, 2005, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows power steering, silver grey, 32388 miles, £17500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

6 SERIES, 630I, 2005, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows power steering, silver grey, 32388 miles, £17500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

6 SERIES, 630I, 2005, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows power steering, silver grey, 32388 miles, £17500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

M3, M3 CONV, 26297188, we have 66 convertibles on site, take a look at our website for more details and to contact our sales team. at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, yellow, 0 miles, £15995, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

X3, XDRIVE 20D, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, black sapphire, 7551 miles, £26000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

X5, SE Auto, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid, silver, 26000 miles, £26000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

X5, SE Auto, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid, silver, 26000 miles, £26000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, 3.6 automatic sport saloon, 2007, blue metallic with cream leather seats, 20000 miles, £5950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

AVEO, LT, 2008, black, 20523 miles, £4400, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AVEO, LT, 2008, black, 20523 miles, £4400, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CAPTIVA, VCDi LT FWD, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking isofix child seat points, grey, 21364 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CAPTIVA, VCDi LT FWD, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking isofix child seat points, grey, 21364 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX, 2005, abs brakes drivers airbag electric windows power steering, silver, 48000 miles, £3000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX, 2005, abs brakes drivers airbag electric windows power steering, silver, 48000 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.2 S, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking isofix child seat points, silver, 27000 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.2 S, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking isofix child seat points, silver, 27000 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX, 2009, black metallic, 9000 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

LACETTI, 1.6 SX, 2007, abs brakes air con alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, silver, 28000 miles, £4500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CITROEN

BERLINGO, Multispace Desire HDi, cv55ojf, air conditioning, parking sensor, electric mirrors, electric windows, twin sunroofs, twin air bags, colour coded body, central locking, immobiliser, cd player, beige metallic, 40000 miles, £5999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, LX, 2006, abs brakes central locking immobiliser power steering, white, 84942 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6i 16v XTR, 2008, sahara gold, 7500 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)**C3**, 16v, 2008, alarm fitted electric windows immobiliser multi cd player multiple airbags, blue, 50 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C3, 16v, 2008, abs brakes cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim, blue, 55 miles, £12980, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C3, 16v, 2008, red, 50 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £19000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, blue, 50 miles, £19000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £19000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

PICASSO, SX, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking electric windows power steering, metallic gold, 58000 miles, £3500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

PICASSO, Desire, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning cd player drivers airbag electric windows power steering trip computer remote audio controls, silver, 3830 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FIAT

500, 1.2 Lounge 3dr Hatch, gl10svk, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, audio remote control, space saver spare wheel, isofix child seat anchor points, white metallic, 200 miles, £10865, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Lounge 3dr Hatch, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, audio remote control, space saver spare wheel, isofix child seat anchor points, black metallic, 190 miles, £13895, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Sport 3dr Hatch, rf09fon, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, body coloured bumpers, sports seats, space saver spare wheel, height adjustable drivers seat, isofix child seat anchor points, bossa nova white metallic, 5075 miles, £9495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

500, 1.3 Mjet Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser mp3 player multiple airbags power steering trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) remote audio controls adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, white, 17469 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 256 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 50 miles, £16100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, 2007, abs brakes bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue metallic, 21000 miles, £4750, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, 2007, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear armrest rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, blue, 18000 miles, £5400, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MULTIPLA, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, blue, 55 miles, £19500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MULTIPLA, 1.9, 2008, red, 55 miles, £19590, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MULTIPLA, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £19580, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MULTIPLA, 1.9, 2008, black, 54 miles, £19700, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FORD

FIESTA, 5, nc04mhl, insurance group 4 abs alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer 1 owner history. ocean blue, 43000 miles, £4000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.2, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior, silver, 55 miles, £25000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.2, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £25000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.2, 2008, black, 55 miles, £25000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec (Climate Pack), 2007, blue, 56108 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, blue, 5932 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec (Climate Pack), 2007, non standard colour, 10768 miles, £13025, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 2.0, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights multiple airbags, silver, 9 miles, £26500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 2.0, 2008, alarm fitted central locking, silver, 10 miles, £26500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 2.0, 2008, central locking electric windows half leather trim, silver, 10 miles, £26500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

KA, Collection, 2004, excellent condition my ka has aircon, air bags, electric windows, alloy wheels, cdplayer metallic paint. great little car owned by one careful lady driver. oyster, 50000 miles, £2200, Veronica Swainston, 07736415653 (PRIVATE)

KA, 1.3 Style, 2008, colorado red, 23000 miles, £5495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes multiple airbags, black, 55 miles, £26600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted central locking electric windows front fog lights half leather trim heated seats multi cd player, silver, 10 miles, £26500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0, 2008, silver, 17 miles, £26490, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, VTEC Executive automatic Sat Nav + Leather, full leather, climate control, abs, power steering, parking sensor, multi-function steering wheel, electric mirrors, electric windows, satellite navigation, remote central locking, colour coded body, cd player, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, front fog lamps, 15'' alloys, blue, 89000 miles, £5999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

ACCORD, 2.2 i-CTDi EX, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking, flint grey, 45294 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CIVIC, 2.2ES, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric windows full service history metallic paint power fold mirrors, royal blue pearl, 66523 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CR-V, ES, 2007, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint power fold mirrors power steering sliding rear seats trip computer remote central locking adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, blue, 26000 miles, £15000, Tunbridge Wells, 08448 759297 (TRADE)

FR-V, I-VTEC EX, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows power steering, galaxy grey, 28295 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.14SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking full service history metallic paint power fold mirrors, blue, 23998 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4SE AUTO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking cruise control electric windows full service history immobiliser power fold mirrors, black, 17895 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, CRDI LS, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking diesel electric windows power steering, silver, 50450 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, GS, 2009, silver, 32343 miles, £6615, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 44 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 39 miles, £16000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 56 miles, £16100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser satellite navigation, red, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16220, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, red, 55 miles, £16750, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0 CRDi Sport, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £16700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

PICANTO, 1.1 Ice, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags body coloured bumpers, blue, 5107 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

PICANTO, LX, 2006, alarm fitted drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, flame red, 51092 miles, £3000, Maidstone, 08448 759296 (TRADE)

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BMW 523i SE, 5 Doors, Automatic, Estate, Petrol, 1997 R Reg , 113,928 miles, Metallic Silver, 4 Owners. Radio/CD Multichanger, Wood/wood effect trim, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Height adjustable drivers seat, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control, ABS, Front fog lights, Passenger airbag, Roof rails, Reverse parking aid, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Service indicator, Trip computer, Alarm, Electric sunroof, Front armrest, Rear armrest, Radio/Cassette, Traction control, Body coloured bumpers, PAS. Insurance Group:15, Good service history with 14 stamps in service book. A really nice clean example of this particular BMW Tourer.....**£2,495**

SAAB 9-3 2.0T Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 2003 53 Reg , 121,170 miles, Metallic Black, 3 Owners. Sat Nav, Bluetooth Handsfree Leather seat trim, Heated door mirrors, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Alloy wheels, Service indicator, Immobiliser, Foglights, Full electric pack, ABS, Remote central locking, Trip computer, Alarm, PAS, Air conditioning, Anti theft system, Climate Control, Full Service History, Sports seats, Tinted glass.....**NOW £4,195**

1998 R Reg SAAB 9-5 2.0T, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol,116,963 miles, Metallic Red, 2 Owners. Cloth upholstery, Radio/CD, Service indicator, Full Electric Pack, Air conditioning, Alloy wheels, Anti theft system, Colour coding - Body, Computer, Cruise control, Heated seats, Leather seats, Metallic paintwork, Multi function steering wheel, Navigation system, Park distance control, Power assisted steering, Sideskirts, Spoiler, Sunroof, Tinted glass, Traction control **£1,695**

SAAB 9-5 2.0T SE, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 2001 Y Reg, 102,941 miles, Metallic Grey, 4 Owners. ABS, Radio/CD, Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Leather upholstery, Full Electric Pack, Air conditioning, Alarm, Central locking, Radio/Cassette, Traction control, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Climate Control, Service indicator .....**WAS £3,195 NOW £2,795**

SAAB 9-3 2.0T, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2000 W Reg, 70,471 miles, Metallic RED, 2 Owners. Central locking, Trip computer, Cloth upholstery, Part Service History, CD, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, PAS, Radio/Cassette, Air conditioning, Radio, Service indicator **£2,495**

SAAB 9-3 2.0i, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 1998 R Reg, 66,678 miles, Black, 1 Owner. Rear wiper, Trip computer, Cloth upholstery, Immobiliser, Part Service History, Remote locking, Drivers airbag, ABS, Adjustable seats, Air conditioning, Alloy wheels, Anti theft system, CD, Central locking, Child locks, Computer, Metallic paintwork, Radio, Side airbags, Steel wheels, Sunroof, Tinted glass, Wheel trims.....**NOW £1,695**

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

THERE'S a sense of a lull before the storm at the moment with the coalition Government's Comprehensive Spending Review due to hit next Wednesday.

And I can't promise you a cloud-free horizon for now either, because we touch upon 'cloud computing' – the future of computing or not? – in our Big Interview with Thanet-based computer guru Gareth Johns.

I also have to tell you that while many business experts say we must go on an export drive, we are not alone in looking to new foreign opportunities – check out the story inside on how Ostend in Belgium wants to build traffic into Kent.

STEVE LOADER BUSINESS EDITOR
TELEPHONE: 01303 817029
EMAIL: steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

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KRBS aims to pour all savings into One

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

ONE of Britain's oldest surviving building societies is set to disappear in a merger to create a new banking force, OneSavings.

Kent Reliance (KRBS) can trace its roots back to 1847 and is a rare example of the nation's once thriving mutual (member-owned) sector, but now aims to pool its £2.2 billion assets with American private equity firm JC Flowers, which will invest £50 million and gain a 40 per cent stake in the new bank.

The motivation for KRBS – ranked 11th in the UK by asset value – stems from the Northern Rock crash in 2007, which made it harder for traditional mutual societies to raise or attract cash to build their businesses.

City experts believe JC Flowers aims to use this situation to woo other small societies to build OneSavings and challenge traditional banking players Barclays, HSBC, Lloyds TSB and RBS NatWest and the increasingly powerful Spanish-owned Santander.

The conviction gathered strength with the American firm's recent hiring of the former head of the UK's fourth biggest building society, the Skipton. John Goodfellow ran the Yorkshire society for 17 years and says he is acting as an advisor on the mutual sector, while strenuously denying his former employer is in the US firm's sights. JC Flowers' founder Christopher Flowers – a former partner in American banking and finance firm Goldman Sachs – made abortive moves on Northern Rock, Friends Provident, and Bradford and Bingley, before succeeding with KRBS.

But the plans must still be ratified by the Financial Services Authority and, more importantly in this instance, gain approval from 75 per cent of Kent Reliance savers and borrowers under the old mutual society structure.

Members will be balloted and the result announced at a special meeting of the society on November 19. A 'yes' vote will allow the new bank to be created in February, 2011.

Member reaction has been muted since the proposals were released in August and it is likely that dissent will be mollified by breaking news this week that the JC Flowers' stake had been cut from 49 to 40 per cent and confirmation that KRBS would retain control.

But the biggest hurdle is likely to be that, unlike the rash of building society de-mutualisations in the 1990s, no windfall payments are being tabled to entice members to agree to this scheme.

KRBS has some 180,000 members and 45 staff and has been one of the fastest-growing building societies in the country over the past decade, while slashing overheads.

Fourteen outlets have been cut to eight and only two are now full branches – Chatham and Hempstead – with CEO Mike Lazenby happy to brand traditional branches as "liabilities".

As it has pruned profile on Kent high streets, KRBS has sought it elsewhere through sponsorship of football clubs Gillingham, Charlton Athletic and Whitstable Town.

BUSINESS WEEK Live

Spending review explained

BUSINESSES in Kent have mixed emotions ahead of next Wednesday's Comprehensive Spending Review by the coalition – relief that the UK debt mountain is being tackled, but fears for confidence, trade and jobs.

And there will be many questions and challenges raised – ones that Business Week Live (BWL) aims to answer on Wednesday, November 10, exactly three weeks after the Government's pronouncements.

Billed as an essential event for business owners, entrepreneurs and managers, BWL has been created by Archant KOS Media.

Delegates and visitors already registered include MDs and CEOs, FDs and many other directors and managers from all business sectors, and representing companies from SMEs to larger private and public organisations and agencies.

Archant KOS Media commercial director Christine Davidson said: "The appeal is BWL's offer of true value to attendees at a crucial time in their planning process, post-CSR and prior to the crunch year of 2011 – everyone and their businesses needs to know where the opportunities will be.

In addition to sourcing suppliers and partners, visitors will get free access to a conference programme and workshop of more than 20 speakers. All delegates attending the inspirational manager session presented by Neil Annis will walk away with access to over £2,500 worth of training resource. And Kent Business School is providing a free Business Clinic during the show. Companies can book a 30-minute slot with a clinic team comprising MBA (Master of Business Administration) students, MBA alumni and MBA academics.

MBA students have an average of 10 years' management experience here and abroad: "No hard-pressed firm can really pass up on the chance of brainstorming their company problems with such experts when just one good tip could save their company," said Christine.

Other hot topics include:

Getting Investment: hear Phil Bevean, portfolio director for the Kent and Medway Innovation Team, and Liz Dolding, partner and commercial legal expert from Warners Solicitors, tell you how to turn your ideas into profitable business.

Going Digital: apps, stats, vids, mobiles and the web – what does it all mean for business? Come and hear from leading expert Jonnie Jensen, who has more than 10 years' experience in the sector with leading companies such as Lycos Europe.

Inspirational Management: Neil Annis has over 20 years' experience in operational management, sales, change management, training and coaching, and personal and organisational development.

Multi-Channel Marketing: it can seem daunting and complex, but leading specialist Ben Edwards can navigate you to the benefits for your business and profits.

And join the Big Debate: PM David Cameron launched the Big Society to empower communities to run post offices, libraries, transport services and shape housing projects. What are the implications of this for businesses, and how can they be involved? Come and join a panel session with leading experts from local business and social enterprise.

Exhibiting companies leading the line up at the County Showground, Detling, include BT, East Malling Conference Centre, IPS international, KCC Low Carbon Futures, Kent FA, Kent Science Park, Manston Airport, Medway Safety, NatWest, University of Greenwich, Village Hotels, The Kent Foundation, Circatron and Comcheck.

CONFERENCE TOPICS

- Readying investment… how to catch your dragon
- Digital revolution… what's in it for business?
- Tweet, greet and network… is social media like Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn worth the investment?
- Win the war for talent… getting the best staff
- Manage and inspire… it doesn't have to be a secret
- Making 'bricks and clicks' stick… multi-channel marketing
- The Big Debate… what will be the role of business in the Big Society?

Comment

IF I WAS Sir Philip Green, I would be hopping mad. The man who sent bloated High Street giants such as Bhs and Debenhams to Fat Club was asked to investigate a training regime for another lumbering fattie – Whitehall.

What he found came as no surprise: waste on a scale that even the dopiest civil servant would ban at home. It certainly couldn't be allowed in a small business.

But, instead of thanking the entrepreneur, who did all this for nowt but could have charged a colossal hourly rate and been worth every penny – unlike those who agree ill-founded Government deals and contracts – Sir P has been criticised for allegedly cheating the taxman of £1.2 billion from his UK business empire and paying it to his wife, a resident of Monaco.

So what? Rather that the public sector showed nous like that than the ineptitude I saw for myself when – in a moment of stupidity – I was persuaded into lucrative copywriting for a Whitehall department.

Only later did I find that while gleefully earning twice my normal daily fee and working from home, the consultancy employing me was charging the Government five times my real world fee and pocketing three-fifths of the dosh for doing absolutely nothing.

But then the contract was called in; someone smelled a rat, so I wrote to my ministry contact and offered to do the work direct at the same fee as I had been paid by 'Greedy Communications'. OK, I was being greedy, too. It was still twice my usual rate, though two-fifths of what Greedy charged.

Silence. Have they really wised up now and rumbled that even I'm charging double?

No. Just more bureaucratic dithering before an astounding result: Greedy was back on board and complacent enough to re-hire me as before, despite me trying to cut them out of the deal. Multiply stories like this by not very much and you see why the public sector wastes so much.

BUSINESS EDITOR STEVE LOADER

Don't waste our waste, say CBI chiefs

MINISTERS have been urged to use non-recyclable waste to help meet the UK's energy needs, slash volumes sent to landfill, and help meet climate change targets.

The call comes as the Confederation of British Industry launches a new report – Going to Waste: Making the Case for Energy From Waste – highlighting how waste could help the nation meet its domestic power needs.

The technologies it advocates include anaerobic digestion, where biological processes produce bio-gas from waste, and incineration. It stresses how these provide consistent, homegrown and reliable power supplies unaffected by the weather.

The CBI reckons strong Government direction on planning, financing and procurement could allow the UK to quadruple energy from waste from 1.5 per cent to six per cent in just five years.

The alternative is EU fines of about £182.5 million a year unless the UK curbs its landfill practice.

A CBI spokesman said: "We cannot continue dumping rubbish in landfill.

"Waste that can't be recycled could be used to heat homes and produce electricity, as well as improving our energy security.

"Across Europe, generating energy from waste is common and compatible with high levels of recycling."

Ostend's trade ambitions reach towards Ramsgate

CHANNEL PARTNER: Jan Allaert is Ostend port's commercial manager

AT A TIME when Kent businesses are being exhorted to think 'Export!' they have been reminded that it might not be one-way traffic, ***writes Nick Ames***.

The port of Ostend in Belgium wants to expand cross-Channel trade with the UK, and especially via Ramsgate.

Currently a commercial agreement between LD Lines and Transeuropa Ferries sees cars and freight travel between the two ports daily.

But Ostend wants to expand its berthing to take larger vessels and is keen to stress the advantages of the toll-free Belgian motorway network over its French counterpart. Ostend port's commercial manager Jan Allaert said: "We are very much open for business here and want to increase our links with the UK – particularly the port of Ramsgate.

"Ostend has a history of trading with Kent which stretches back many years – in fact to 1836. That was when we had our first cross-Channel link bringing in vessels from Dover."

Mr Allaert said part of Ostend's attractions was good links to elsewhere in northern Europe: "Our location is a major plus point for the port. Motorways link us with Brussels and all points north into Germany and eastwards to the Czech Republic, Slovakia and as far away as Ukraine.

"With so much trade coming from lorries doing the run to eastern Europe, that is a plus. Even the four-hour crossing time to Ramsgate works in our favour. Drivers have longer to catch up on their statutory rest periods.

"Then there is the question of road tolls. Belgium has as good a motorway network as anywhere in Europe, yet unlike many countries – especially France – it is free for drivers to use."

Mr Allaert accepts the marketplace for HGV traffic is a crowded one with Dunkirk, Calais and Boulogne all being competitors, along with the Channel Tunnel. But Ostend handles 11,000 trucks a month and the figure is rising.

He added: "We want a larger share of the market because we feel we can offer an extremely good deal. That is why we are pushing ahead with our expansion plans.

"New harbour walls, set to be in place by 2012 and funded by the local Flemish government will allow us to take larger vessels.

"This in turn will mean more lorries, more money for developing our facilities and a better service for customers."

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Emma Angel on her fancy dress business, started by an ancestor in 1840, and the value of pop-up outlets at shopping centres

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

EMPLOYERS in Kent and the South East are missing out on millions each year by failing to invest in the health and wellbeing of their staff, says a report by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

Not unnaturally, the CSP argues that physiotherapy services can save firms through higher productivity and fewer absences from back pain and joint injuries or musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs).

More than half a million people suffer MSDs in the UK, according to the Health and Safety Executive, making it the most common work-related health problem. But the CSP report found:

- Three in 10 managers believe staff who call in sick with an MSD are well enough to work, but just don't want to;
- More than a third (35 per cent) find such absences irritating because others have to take on more work, while 22 per cent say it's a drain their business cannot afford;
- Fifty per cent of workers feel bosses don't care about their health;
- A quarter fear being sacked or facing redundancy later if they take time off sick;
- Nearly two-thirds (63 per cent) of small-to-medium enterprises do not provide occupational health services to staff.

The survey follows earlier CSP research showing 36 per cent of employees work all day without a lunch break and 31 per cent experienced physical pain at work at least once a week.

A CSP spokesman said: "We recognise it is tempting in difficult economic times for businesses to cut back on health and wellbeing initiative. But that is a false economy, because ignoring a recurring condition can potentially lead to lower productivity and high temporary staffing costs."

BLUEWATER – Kent's giant shopping mall – could be worth around £1.7 billion, according to the price tag on a 7.5 stake being offered for sale. Hermes Real Estate, a long-running but minority shareholder in the project since it opened 10 years ago, is selling its holding valued at £120 million after deciding to re-balance its property portfolio at a time when the Kent site is regularly outperforming a depressed retail sector.

FORMER brewing giant Whitbread – now better known for its restaurants and hotels portfolio – will open a new £1.3 million Premier Inn hotel in Rainham High Street on November 1.

The site, alongside Whitbread's Manor Farm Beefeater Grill, will offer 26 bedrooms from £58 per night and has created 15 jobs across housekeeping and reception.

ONE-man-band businesses must not be spooked as the Halloween deadline looms for filing paper self-assessment tax returns. That's the advice from the South East Society of Chartered Accountants, which points out that the taxman will only apply penalties – starting with an automatic £100 – and mounting interest charges for the year ending April 5, 2010, if they still subsequently file a paper return, but an electronic online return buys three months' leeway to January 31.

GULLANDS Solicitors is aiding Maidstone's brightest hope for future sporting success and one of Britain's highest ranking junior rowers, Morgan Hellen.

He has represented Great Britain at international events and has three European championship gold medals and aims to represent GB at the Olympics.

Morgan has recently combined training with studying for his A-levels at Oakwood Park Grammar School, where his love of rowing started.

Gullands' managing partner Richard Cripps said: "Morgan is talented and dedicated and we wish him every success with his ambitions to reach the 2012 Olympics."

System signals award triumph

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

A HERNE Bay-based fire and security company has won two industry awards after assistance from a business solutions firm.

EMS Radio Fire and Security Systems produces wireless fire detection and security systems and took two awards at this year's Best Factory Awards.

The first win was in the category of Best Small/Medium Enterprise; and it also received a highly commended in the Best Electronics and Electrical Plant category.

The company's fire alarm and security sensors are battery-powered and communicate with controllers using secure dual-frequency signalling.

After being shortlisted, EMS called in the Government-backed Manufacturing Advisory Service South East to audit and ensure its factory floor organisation was in the best possible shape for the judging process – the company was already a member of the MAS South East Kent Best Practice Club.

It also sent staff on MAS South East course, while MAS specialists Ian Pateman and Rachel Doyle arrived in Herne Bay and spent a day analysing potential improvements.

EMS MD Chris Mulvihill said: "Having worked hard to improve our manufacturing performance, we are both proud and delighted with our Best Factory Award achievements.

"Working with MAS South East has enabled us to focus our continuous improvement programme, and the audit allowed us to implement actions that further improve our on-time delivery, the overall quality of our products, and the quality of communication within the factory.

"As a direct result of the audit, we implemented a series of monitor screens into each work area that draw real-time data from our ERP [enterprise resource planning] system.

"These screens communicate the schedule adherence and quality performance of the work area, allowing us to easily observe and control what is happening around the factory floor in real time.

"This now allows us target and pinpoint issues for immediate attention and action."

He added: "The MAS Best Practice Club is a great platform for focusing improvements and developing best practice tools and techniques.

"The environment in which the clubs are delivered is perfect for putting those tools and techniques into context, seeing how other manufacturers, regardless of industry sector, are doing it."

HOWLETTS Wild Animal Park is enjoying its first-ever honey harvest.

The Bekesbourne park, better known for its work with endangered species such as gorillas and black rhinos, starting keeping bees last year after realising they had become just as worthy of protection as larger species.

Bee populations have been devastated by environmental pressures and disease.

Three hives produced a yield of 150 jars, half of which went on sale in the Howletts farm shop.

Head gardener David Sutton said: "The honey is delicious and selling very quickly.

"Perhaps being harvested from flowers that tigers and elephants roam among added a touch of wilderness to the mix.

"The importance of bees is easily overlooked, but they have a vital impact on the food chain; agriculture is almost entirely reliant on their pollination."

Easy-peasy deal

A SWEET pea deal has been negotiated by a Kent company to secure more than 14,000 tonnes of the ever-popular vegetable.

STEPHEN WAUGH

Ardo UK struck the deal with Anglian Pea Growers – a 150-strong farmers' cooperative – and will take next year's 14,800-tonne crop, making each farmer around £20,000.

The Kent-based frozen fruit and vegetable processor said the deal restores a 60-year tradition of pea growing and will take UK pea production in 2011 up to 130,000 tonnes. Ardo is a Belgian-owned group that produces and markets frozen fruit, vegetables, rice and pasta to the retail, food service and industrial ingredients sectors.

It has 15 factories across eight countries including its UK head office and major plant at Charing, near Ashford, where it has just installed a new pea packing line.

Ardo UK MD Stephen Waugh said: "East Anglian peas are excellent, grown to the highest standards.

"We are delighted to secure this contract, which is welcome news for British farmers and consumers. The produce will be grown, prepared, packed and consumed within the UK, adding value at every stage.

"We are confident there will be strong demand for this quality British product."

Richard Hirst, chairman of Anglian Pea Growers, said: "East Anglia has a long history of pea growing. The deal with Ardo UK is good news for our members.

"Peas are a high value product and an integral part of the farming process as they fix nitrogen in the soil and can be harvested in between other main crops."

After next June's harvest, the peas will be prepared and frozen within two-and-a-half hours of being picked and then packed at Charing, ready for sale and distribution.

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BUSINESS WEEK

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The right connections

AT YOUR SERVER: Gareth Johns of Business Computer Solutions

KOS media BUSINESS WEEK

THE BIG INTERVIEW

Offices have been revolutionised over the past 20 years. Even those of us around long enough to witness the before and after find it hard to envisage how it was in the days when few offices had even a single computer. But reliance on computer power and higher employee output places businesses at great risk from hardware meltdown or software conflicts and the dreaded computer viruses.
And IT investment and strategy is also a continuously moving picture, so business editor STEVE LOADER emailed Gareth Johns, boss of Thanet-based Business Computer Solutions and asked him about managing office IT now and in the future.

GARETH JOHNS

GARETH Johns caught the computer bug early. "There were 750 kids and just one computer when I was at school in Broadstairs and I was the kid who monopolised that computer," he recalled.

In 1981 he also bought one of the first mass-produced computers, a Sinclair ZX-81, and was soon writing his own programs.

By the time he was 18, he had written and was managing the software and computer for the parts section at a local garage: "That lasted until I was 21, when I realised I was then running the whole garage parts section rather than furthering my career in computing."

He went on to buy and sell and build computers, and the software too, and now runs a highly successful Ramsgate firm, Business Computer Solutions (BCS), managing and troubleshooting the IT operations of some 60 clients across 170 business sites and their 1,240 PCs and laptops, plus attendant servers and hardware.

But it was a life of 'feast and famine' until just over two years ago when he changed his business model from what he calls a "break/fix" operation – still the sector norm – to a more strategic operation where clients pay a flat fee every month, founded on a basic £10 a month per PC.

"I realised it was the way to go," said Gareth. "Instead of simply reacting to customers' problems, we are now ahead of them. Before, if something broke, we would fix it, be the hero and get paid. If it didn't break, we didn't eat. The proactive managed approach means it rarely breaks in the first place. Potential problems are identified long before the machine's user hits down time, loses stuff or the machine simply goes 'pop'.

"It's now strategic, whereas before you either never had enough engineers on hand or were busy finding things for them to do. It's the same for customers. They have consistency. They are not waiting for a good month with IT to be followed by a bad one with massive disruption and staff down time."

It has to be the way forward for his sector, he argues, although it has meant a £150,000 investment for BCS over two years; £95,000 alone on remote accessing and monitoring software allowing individual machines to be monitored and problems headed off.

Users report a fault and register a virtual 'ticket', which feeds into a 'triage' section where urgency and the problem are

GARETH JOHNS' CV

- 1986 – left college and joined Ford dealership
- 1989 – became self-employed computer engineer and programmer
- 1990 – opened a shop selling computer games, software and hardware
- 1991 – started The Computer Foundation, serving the home computer market and then evolving into all-round computer support operation
- 1996 – company expanded and reborn as BCS

to provide IT solutions

accessed. BCS averages 1,200 tickets a month and most are sorted out within 10 minutes. The engineer reports back to the person who logged it and they then receive a questionnaire to check quality of service.

A manager at the client also has full remote access to this dialogue and an overview if there are several problems across their company.

If it can't be fixed remotely, an engineer and van is sent. Engineers rotate their time on the road or at the desk at the firm's HQ in Elms Avenue, Ramsgate, where it employs 13 full-time staff.

This includes 24-hour coverage: "The office world is round-the-clock now, though our out-of-hours contact tends to be people working from home trying to connect into the office for something they need urgently for a report or project they are working on.

"I suppose our finest hour was being contacted by a customer travelling across Norway en route to a crucial presentation in Germany. Something had taken over his laptop and stopping him connecting into his office. The guy was at his wits' end.

"We were able to go in remotely, stop the infection and sort the problem and he made that presentation. If he and his company didn't think the service was worth £10 a month before, they do now.

"Actually most of our customers saw the sense in the deal and realised we take a big hit upfront because, while we get £10 a month per machine, we have to take a very strategic view of where that machine will be in a year's time and beyond, so we throw time and money at it initially to ensure that the client gets the continuity they expect from their new deal.

"Fact is, companies don't invest in IT usually until it breaks and they also fail to consider the cost of wasted productivity and capital investment (on the computer) while it is offline.

"I'm happy to lose money initially though, because long-term investment brings mutual benefits."

He applies a similar philosophy on equipping his engineers with vans: "I won't run old vans. Apart from the fact tatty old vans don't reflect well on the company when out and about, you fail the customer if the van fails. Of course, even new vans break down, but customers recognise this can happen. They are less likely to forgive if you run a piece of junk. A new van also gives my guys a sense of pride."

But surely customers' employees are less appreciative of his firm's position as a potential spy on their company with their remote support tools? "It's really important to be seen by the customer as a trusted advisor, as any in-house IT manager, would be. And we are talking about work machines for a work application. We have to make sure they are patched, updated, secure, virus protected, fit for purpose, the customer's capital investment is protected and that system time is not wasted or risked through social networking and non-work-related surfing."

He is also big on spam protection before it is downloaded onto the client's network because, he points out, this slows down valuable online capacity: "We can scan out all the Viagra and replica watches stuff that just clogs things up, but in among this is the malware that could really mess things up and you always find someone in a company gets curious and opens something they shouldn't …"

But where will office IT go?

Gareth said: "The pace of change is even faster now, which makes it hard for anyone to be certain, but a lot is pinned on 'cloud computing' and big names like Microsoft and Google are in there, but it relies on your software and most of your files and in-house resources being available to you online via the cloud or remote servers. The worry for many companies will be 'what if I lose my connection?' and cannot work. We are looking at it for some clients and it might well suit companies with very mobile workforces in areas with secure internet connections, but it won't suit everyone."

Gareth, 42, is married with one daughter and is a motoring fan who also enjoys spending time with Riley, his Parsons terrier cross, going to any pub in walking distance.

• ***Look out for more on cloud computing in a future article from BCS.***

GARETH'S TOP TIPS

• Work with trusted suppliers – "I know my own field of expertise, but I'm the first to recognise areas where I'm not strong, so I take recommendations, do my homework and find the right people to support me elsewhere. We've even outsourced our own website because we would rather concentrate on our particular IT strengths rather than try to do something someone else can do faster and better."

• Don't skimp on capital equipment – "Older and unreliable equipment and vehicles will cost you time and productivity and the reputation of your company."

ONLINE: Gareth Johns at work in the office

REMOTE CONTROL: BCS has 13 full-time staff based at its Elms Avenue headquarters

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BUSINESS WEEK SPOTLIGHT

ON HOSPITALITY, TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Ahoy there tourists

MEDWAY has launched a website designed to draw visitors to the area's wealth of marine heritage attractions as well as other English and foreign towns on the Channel and southern North Sea coasts, ***writes Steve Loader***:

The site www.maritime-history.eu highlights the strong common culture and seafaring traditions of this extensive maritime region and uses video and sound recordings as well as pictures to highlight fishing, boatbuilding, smuggling, cross-Channel transport, lighthouses and historic dockyards like that of Chatham itself, which opened the all-new flagship museum and gallery No1 Smithery in July.

The site is also part of the HMS project – heritage and maritime memories in the two seas region – a co-operation between 30 partners in Belgium, France, the Netherlands and the UK, with Medway Council as lead partner.

More information and films are set to be added to the site and Medway Council's tourism chief Cllr Jane Chitty said: "We are delighted to be the project's lead partner. This reflects our strong naval tradition, and complements our bid for World Heritage Site status for Chatham Dockyard and its defences."

The HMS project was launched in October, 2009, and is partly funded by the European Interreg IVA 'two seas programme' – a 167 million euro programme that supports 24 cross-border projects between neighbouring regions.

DINERS in Kent and the South East don't tend to be moaners, according to eating out review site www.wheresgoodtoeat.com.

A survey of 1,000 respondents across the region, designed to establish how often diners have cause to complain, saw poor service come second to an overwhelming dissatisfaction with the temperature of the main courses, but also showed that up to 40 per cent of poor experiences go unreported.

Spokesman Gordon Lloyd West said: "The survey has confirmed that as a nation we still don't like to make a fuss, but the only way standards will go up is if restaurants and cafes have customer feedback. At www.wheresgoodtoeat.com diners have the chance to share their experience when they eat out and also for restaurant owners to monitor their performance and respond if things are not up to scratch."

NEXT WEEK: Spotlight on finance and legal

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Work under way on housing sites

KENT'S housing developers, Bellway, hope to have their two housing sites at St Lawrence completed next May after work began last week.

The redevelopment project is now fully under way with the club having started work on the facelift of the old ground at the end of last month and now Bellway have started the groundwork for their two projects.

The diggers have been out in force since last Friday, with the net site the initial focus (pictured).

It's hoped the two new housing sites will be completed on the Bat & Ball site and at the top of the drive by May and the club is keen for the two roads to have cricket-related names.

Coles' Kent uncertainty

All-rounder says the wait to sort out his contract is playing on his mind, but he wants to stay at St Lawrence

By GLENN PEARSON

ONE of Kent's bright hopes for the future has yet to be offered a new contract at St Lawrence and has admitted the uncertainty is playing on his mind.

Matt Coles, the 20-year-old all-rounder, is one of several of the club's young stars out of contract at the end of next season, which means if Kent decided against offering a new deal this winter, other counties would be entitled to speak to those players in the summer.

Undoubtedly the major highlight of what was a disappointing season for Kent, Coles will surely be at the front of the queue when it comes to extending contracts at St Lawrence. The fast bowler grabbed his chance in the first-team with both hands, sending down 234 overs in championship cricket and claiming 24 wickets at an average of 36. Coles was among a crop of young players offered the carrot of an opportunity in first-class cricket this summer, and while the likes of Phil Edwards and Warren Lee failed to take that chance, the Maidstone-born left-hander quickly forced his way into the side and made it hard for team selectors to drop him.

IMPACT: Matt Coles' all-round form was one of the high points for Kent in an otherwise poor year

Coles has been sent to Perth, Australia, to continue his development over the winter as part of a six-month ECB scholarship, and while he is looking forward to working on his game, tying up his future at Kent dominates his thoughts.

"It plays on my mind, even when I am over here," he told KoS in an interview from Australia. "I do not know what they are going to come back with, but I am pretty sure they want to keep me from what Farby [head coach Paul Farbrace] has told me.

"It looks like I will get another year, I would rather another two but it looks like one, so we will have to go from there.

"Hopefully it will be sorted out as soon as possible, before Christmas would be good."

Having played for Kent at under-13, under-15 and under-17 level before being accepted on the Academy programme, Coles is a genuine product of the county's coaching set-up, and staying at St Lawrence is his number one priority.

"I have grown up at Kent and have come through the age groups so I do not want to leave the club," he said.

"I want to stay as loyal to Kent as I can like Rob Key and James Tredwell have. I do not want to have the hassle of going to another team. Kent will give me the best opportunity to play first-team cricket and that's what I have to be looking at."

Coles has shown genuine promise as an all-rounder, registering a maiden half-century in the game against Lancashire, and taking 4-55 against Warwickshire where he showed his ability to bowl a 'heavy' ball that accounted for England batsman Jonathan Trott.

Pictures: ADY KERRY

The county's coaching staff have been mindful of pushing him too far too soon, but there's no doubt Coles wants to be an all-rounder. It's hardly surprising; watching him in training, there's a child-like innocence where he wants to be involved in everything, whether it be batting, bowling or fielding, such his enthusiasm for the game.

While out in Australia, trying to curb that enthusiasm is something he hopes to achieve as he is aware of his growing importance to Kent's already depleted bowling attack.

"It's about getting ready for the English cricket season, and I know Perth aren't going to push me. I need to take things a bit slower as the last thing we need is for me to come back with an injury and miss parts of the season because that wouldn't be good for anyone. If I do get something that is sore I know I will not want to pull out of a game or training and watch, but I have to be sensible and ensure I am fit for Kent."

CLASS ACT: Medal hope Michael Gunning

Swimmers dive in for county title bid

A GROUP of top swimmers from Kent pit themselves against the best in Britain on Sunday as the national county team championships take place in Sheffield.

Competing in Division One, Kent's squad features swimmers from 12 different clubs as they battle to hold their own in an event traditionally dominated by the northern counties.

In Michael Gunning and Xander Alari-Williams, though, Kent possess two genuine class acts, while the girls' team contains several swimmers with experience on the big stage.

Gunning, featuring in the team alongside younger brother Luke, collected two medals at the national youth championships in August, while Alari-Williams is already a British breaststroke champion.

Kent swimming manager Jean Scott admitted the opposition would be fierce in Sheffield, but backed her swimmers to extend their stay in the top division.

"We've got a good squad but the word 'national' rings a few bells and it is a tough competition," she said. "Every team north of the Watford Gap will be strong – you look at the Great Britain team and a lot of them are from the north, training at Loughborough.

"A good return would be to keep our position in Division One, but we'd love to finish 10th or higher. It's hard because every county brings their top swimmers – I've even seen [Commonwealth gold medallist] Fran Halsall there."

The action gets under way at 11.50am with the 16/17-years girls 100-metre freestyle, running through 31 races and concluding with the mixed 6 x 50m freestyle team event.

KENT SQUAD: Rebecca Walton, Steffi King, Michael Gunning, Kunmi Ogunfeibo, Luke Gunning (Beckenham); Joan Sebastien Tello, Emma Mitchell, Leanne Hennessey (Greenwich Borough Mariners); Patrick Ham, Joseph Choong, Xander Alari-Williams (Sevenoaks); Kyriacos Papa-Adams, Louise Gates (Thanet); Charlotte Davies, Dan Seagrove-Castle (City of Canterbury); Sian Benmhamedi (Saxon Crown); Ashley Pattison (Black Lion); Katie Latham (Dover Lifeguard); Jamie Grain (Bexley); Megan Lee (Ashford Town); Elizabeth Hathaway (RTW Monson); Benedict Kelleher (Bromley).

FA gives Step 6 plans the green light

THE route to senior football is set to become significantly easier for ambitious Kent clubs, after the Football Association's League's Committee approved the formation of a new Step 6 competition in the county for next season.

The decision means that clubs in the Kent County League [KCL] with ambitions to move up to the Kent League will now get financial assistance and four years' grace to bring their facilities up to the required standard.

The chairman of the Kent League, Denise Richmond, has said clubs wishing to be a part of this new non-league pyramid next season should register their interest by October 31.

"We're delighted the FA Leagues Committee has given Step 6 in Kent the go-ahead," she said. "We would actively encourage all clubs who have an interest to find out more and register their interest.

"These are exciting times and we'd like to support interested clubs as much as possible."

Step 6 clubs will be given up to four years to bring their grounds up to the required 'G' standard, which must "give an overall impression of being suitable for the National League System."

STEP UP: Kent League chairman Denise Richmond awards Faversham the title

The move also opens up the possibility of relegation from the Kent League Premier Division.

The existing link between the leagues, dating back to 1992 when the KCL formed a Premier Division, has produced mixed results.

The main beneficiaries have been VCD Athletic, Sevenoaks Town, Holmesdale and Norton Sports, all of whom have won promotion and are now established senior sides.

However, Norton initially had to groundshare with Herne Bay, and other KCL champions like Bearsted, Snodland and Crockenhill, however have either been unable or unwilling to meet the Kent League's ground grading requirements.

Under the new system a club like Tunbridge Wells-based side Rusthall, would be allowed four seasons to make any improvements needed to Jockey Farm.

The existing set-up can also work against clubs who seek to provide senior football as a spectator sport – such as recently reformed Ashford Town.

Although Hythe Town and Faversham regained their former levels after a couple of seasons, when Maidstone United folded in 1992 their recovery was set back a number of years. A combination of politics and warring egos saw the reformed Maidstone Invicta placed in the KCL's bottom division – five full flights below Kent League level.

Despite restructuring, Canterbury City and Sheppey United, both of whom folded a decade ago, have similarly struggled to make their way through the KCL's lower divisions.

Brands owner plays down World Superbikes absence

By TOM HOWARD

IT'S been three years since Brands Hatch last hosted the World Superbike Championship (WSB), but circuit owner Jonathan Palmer insists it hasn't been missed.

The West Kingsdown circuit has enjoyed another good season in a sport that has been hit hard by the recession. Large crowds have continued to flock to the track, most notably for the British Superbike and Touring Car Championships, with a record 42,000 attending the latter's thrilling final last weekend.

In the past the WSB and Brands Hatch have gone hand in hand and it was one of the most anticipated meetings on the schedule.

Over the years the likes of multiple world champion Carl Fogarty and James Toseland competing in the championship would draw crowds in excess of 100,000, but that came to an end in 2007 with Palmer citing a crippling rise in fees as the reason he dropped the championship from the Brands Hatch calendar.

Picture: NICK DUNGAN

FULL HOUSE: A bumper crowd at Brands Hatch watched the thrilling finale of this year's British Touring Car Championship

However, the circuit has seen an increased response in spectator figures from the two rounds of the British Superbike Championship (BSB) it hosts every year and Palmer believes it has very nearly acted as a complete substitute for the WSB to justify his decision.

Palmer is predicting more success now the circuit will host three BSB meetings next year, with the opening round on April 25, a summer event on August 7 and the final round on October 9.

He said: "It has been a strong year. We've invested £600,000 to resurface the circuit and it is paying off.

"Obviously we haven't had the WSB this year again, but the BSB event we have in the summer is becoming a pretty good substitute. It's not quite the same, but not far off.

"We're working on something special for the final round of the BSB next season, it will be our biggest event. We have very strong national championships in BSB and BTCC and they bring in bigger crowds than some international events because there is more local awareness."

While he remains happy with the events his circuit hosts, Palmer has not completely ruled out a return of the world series to Kent.

He said: "We haven't thought about getting the WSB back, but if they come to me with a sensible offer, I will certainly listen. I don't want to go chasing after it though, we don't really need it as business is going well."

Despite the circuit experiencing a record BTCC crowd for the final round last Sunday won by Chevrolet's Jason Plato, Brands will host the opening round and penultimate meeting (October 2) of the championship next year instead.

Frustration for McPherson at World Equestrian Games

KENT showjumper David McPherson admitted his World Equestrian Games experience had been a "let-down" after finishing ninth with Great Britain in the team event.

McPherson retired his horse, Chamberlain Z, midway through the team final after knocking down two fences in the unfamiliar environment of jumping under floodlights.

The Maidstone-based rider finished 92nd in the overall standings and said the competition, held in Kentucky, had left him feeling rather underwhelmed.

"The venue was amazing, but it was a 1500-acre park and the walking distances were vast. It wasn't like anywhere I'd been to before and to be candid, it was a slight let-down.

"The lower quality people jumped well in the afternoon, surprisingly so. The evening class was under lights and it was difficult, not just for myself but there were some fabulous horses who didn't survive it. The less careful horses jumped very well, but the careful ones [like Chamberlain Z] froze up."

Picture: KIT HOUGHTON

RETIRED: David McPherson had to pull Chamberlain Z out at the event in Kentucky

McPherson, 50, now continues his long-term planning for the London Olympics in 2012, although he and Chamberlain Z are likely to take a step back from competition until early next year.

DEVASTATED: Tommy Hill

Picture: NICK DUNGAN

Hill loses title at the death

BECKENHAM rider Tommy Hill said he was "devastated," after a crash at Oulton Park last weekend cost him the British Superbike Championship.

Hill, who rides for the Worx Suzuki team, seemed to have one hand on the title after claiming second place in the first race of the season's final meeting, but he crashed out during the second race after colliding with James Ellison.

The 25-year-old bravely got back on a severely damaged bike, but he crashed out again two laps later and could only manage fifth in the third and final race, allowing the Japanese rider Ryuichi Kyonari, who won all three races on the day, to claim the title.

Hill, who slipped to third in the rankings behind runner-up Josh Brookes, was initially inconsolable having gone into the final meeting of the season with an 11-point series lead.

"I'm devastated, the team has put so much effort into this championship, and we wanted it so bad and it's just not happened," he said.

"It has been an incredible year, though. We started the season so well. The pressure then came on, but we responded and stayed at the front, so for it to go away in one race, well, we're all disappointed."

Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

1960 **50 YEARS AGO:** GILLINGHAM'S attempts to sign Freddy Morris from Crewe Alexandra hit a snag with the winger reluctant to leave his base in Oswestry.

Morris asked to be able to train with a club nearer his home, an arrangement the Gills already offered to John Shepherd.

Meanwhile, Gills manager Harry Barratt took the precaution of banning himself from the dressing room ahead of a midweek game with Preston at Priestfield, having picked up a dose of the flu.

It was supposed to be the happiest day of his life, but when 20-year-old Frank Fordyke decided to get married during the football season, there was an unexpected drawback.

Fordyke tied the knot on the same day his team, Maidstone United, were due to play Corinthian Casuals in the Isthmian League, but his replacement on the right wing, Ted Saunders, played so well that Fordyke was unable to get back in the side and was forced to join Kingstonian.

1985 **25 YEARS AGO:** STEVE Brinkman was forced to retire from football at the age of 28, having suffered a heart attack after Maidstone United's Gola League game at Northwich Victoria.

Stones boss Barry Fry revealed Brinkman, who had already suffered one heart attack while playing for Barnet in 1982, was lucky to be alive, after failing to take his medication before the game.

"Steve usually takes his pills before a match, but on this occasion he didn't," Fry said. "On top of that he played with a cold, but he was determined to prove a point, that he could hold down a place in the side. It nearly cost him his life."

Brinkman was taken to hospital after complaining of chest pains on the coach.

"Steve must be fair to his wife and young children and call it a day," Fry said.

2000 **10 YEARS AGO:** KENT coach John Wright jetted off to India to discuss taking over the role of coaching the national side.

The hot favourite for the job, the Australian Geoff Marsh, had withdrawn his application after the Indian Cricket Board reportedly baulked at his salary demands, rumoured to be £300,000 per year, leaving Wright and Greg Chappell as the leading contenders to replace Kapil Dev, who stepped down in the wake of match-fixing allegations.

Kent's chief executive, Paul Millman, said: "We have been very supportive of John's case. We are reviewing all our options within the context of John's possible departure to India and also as part of a general end of season exercise."

The future of Canterbury City FC was thrown into doubt when chairman Tony Hiller-Carter quit.

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COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2010

FLYING THE FLAG: Martin Brockman won his first major championship medal

Brockman's brave heroic charge for decathlon bronze

DECATHLETE Martin Brockman produced one of the biggest surprises in Delhi with a gutsy display to pick up a bronze medal.

The multi-eventer was a surprise inclusion in England's squad for the Commonwealth Games in India, but he shone on his major championship debut with a potentially career-making performance in the decathlon.

The 22-year-old Medway & Maidstone athlete showed no sign of nerves as he set personal bests in each of the five events on the opening day of competition.

The highlight of the opening day saw him win the high jump event by clearing the bar at 7.29 metres. His impressive performance saw him hold second spot overnight going into the final day of competition.

Brockman set a another two personal bests on the final day, but his bronze medal chance came down to the 10th and last event, where he needed to finish 16 seconds in front of teammate Kevin Sempers in the 1500m. Despite the magnitude of the occasion, he stormed to victory in the event, finishing 20 seconds ahead of Sempers to secure his first major championship medal.

He said: "I could only have dreamed of achieving what I have done. I was just pleased to be selected for the team, but to win a medal is truly incredible.

"I don't know what to think, it hasn't sunk in yet. I pulled out seven personal bests and two season bests over two days, I couldn't have got anything more out of my body. What a great way to move forward."

Douglas 'runs her skin off' for relay gold

Coach's motivational speech spurs sprinter on to medal win

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

TEAM EFFORT: Montell Douglas (second from left) with her relay team-mates

MONTELL Douglas ended a year plagued by injury with her greatest achievement in athletics by winning gold at the Commonwealth Games.

The 24-year-old sprinter was part of England's successful 4x100-metre relay quartet of Katherine Endacott, Laura Turner and Abi Oyepitan, who stormed to the gold medal on Tuesday.

The Blackheath & Bromley athlete ran an assured second leg in the relay as England destroyed the field to claim gold, finishing a second in front of Ghana with a time of 44.19 seconds.

Douglas, who grew up in Chatham, has spent the majority of the season recovering from a serious knee injury.

She was also part of the Great Britain relay quartet labelled a "disgrace" by performance director Charles Van Commenee after failing to qualify for the European Championships final in August, which makes her triumph in Delhi all the more sweeter.

She said: "I tried my best. Christine Bowmaker, our coach, has been fantastic and she gave us the biggest speech before we came out here. She told us to run our skins off and we did. I'm so happy, it's the best feeling in the world and it makes my 2010."

The British record holder failed to qualify for the final of the individual 100m.

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

DISAPPOINTED: Dan Caprice's chances of sevens medal were dashed by South Africa

Caprice so close as team is pipped for sevens medal

THERE was to be no fairytale ending for Dan Caprice in the rugby sevens, despite a series of sparkling performances from the Chatham-born winger in Delhi.

Having targeted a podium finish in his first Commonwealth Games, Caprice was left empty-handed after England saw a bronze medal snatched from their grasp by South Africa.

When he scored England's second try in Tuesday's play-off game, Caprice could almost feel the medal round his neck as the Springboks faced a 14-5 deficit with just over half the game remaining.

However, two tries in the last three minutes broke English hearts as South Africa triumphed 17-14 to leave the 20-year-old wondering what might have been.

Caprice, a former Sevenoaks schoolboy, will take plenty of positives away from the Games, however, after running in five tries during England's six games in India.

His highlight will be the final pool game against Australia, when he touched down twice – including a superb solo effort – to ensure England progressed as group winners.

Caprice also scored in the opening game against Sri Lanka and he went over against reigning champions New Zealand in the semi-final, although England were well-beaten, 33-12, by the eventual gold medallists.

Having spent last season with Blackheath, Caprice is now full-time with the England Sevens squad and his attentions will turn to the new IRB Sevens World Series, which kicks-off in Dubai on December 3.

ROUND-UP

THERE was widespread success for Kent's contingent of competitors at the Commonwealth Games, with medals won right across the sports.

Canterbury's Natalie Seymour travelled to India with designs on gold in the women's hockey, but those dreams were shattered after a heartbreaking defeat to Australia in the semi-finals.

Seymour and England saw off South Africa 1-0 to claim bronze, however, but there was no happy ending for Ashley Jackson and the men's team after two penalty shoot-out defeats.

The Chatham-born midfielder scored twice as England held India 3-3 in the semi-finals, but the hosts held their nerves to win on penalty flicks. Jackson's medal hopes evaporated as England lost to New Zealand, again on penalties, in the bronze-medal match.

Pictures: ADY KERRY

HEARTBREAK: Natalie Seymour (left) won bronze with England but Ashley Jackson missed out as the men's side lost a penalty shootout

There was a track medal for Ashford-born Nick Leavey, who won bronze with England in the men's 4x400m final as Australia and Kenya took gold and silver respectively.

Dartford-born Grace Clements took bronze in the heptathlon, but Scott Rider could only finish eighth in the shot-put, while Sevenoaks race-walker Tom Bosworth came home 11th in the 20k event.

Ellen Gandy, born in Bromley but now based in Australia, swept to three swimming medals as she picked up silver in the 100m butterfly and 4x100m medley relay, and bronze in the 200m butterfly.

HOW KENT ATHLETES PERFORMED

NAME	KENT LINK	EVENT	POSITION
TOM BOSWORTH	Sevenoaks	20k walk	11th
MARTIN BROCKMAN	Maidstone	Decathlon	●
GRACE CLEMENTS	Born Dartford	Heptathlon	●
MONTELL DOUGLAS	Blackheath	4x100m relay	●
NICK LEAVEY	Born Ashford	4 x 400m relay	●
SCOTT RIDER	Dartford	Shot-put	8th
CARL BAXTER	Petts Wood	Badminton singles	Quarter-finals
SIAN GORDON	Whitstable	Lawn bowls triples	●
SANDY HAZELL	Maidstone	Lawn bowls triples	●
ASHLEY JACKSON	Chatham	Men's hockey	4th
NATALIE SEYMOUR	Maidstone	Ladies' hockey	●
DAN CAPRICE	Chatham	Rugby sevens	4th
MICHAEL BABB	Born Farnborough	Rifle prone shooting	●
ELLEN GANDY	Born Dartford	50m butterfly	5th
		100m butterfly	●
		200m butterfly	●
		4x100m medley relay	●
JOE MUSKETT	Bexley	105+kg weightlifting	5th
JACK OLIVER	Bexleyheath	77kg weightlifting	8th

● GOLD MEDAL ● SILVER MEDAL ● BRONZE MEDAL

There was a silver for Farnborough shooter Mike Babb in the pairs 50m rifle prone category, and bronze for Whitstable's Sian Gordon and Maidstone-based Sandy Hazell in the lawn bowls triples.

Petts Wood's Carl Baxter made it through to the quarter-finals of the badminton singles before losing to India's Chetan Buradagunta, and Kent's two weightlifting representatives also failed to make the podium.

Joe Muskett, from Bexley, finished fifth in the 105+kg division while Bexleyheath's Jack Oliver had to settle for eighth in the 77kg category.

Non-league clubs eye plum Cup ties

Four Kent sides 90 minutes away from facing league giants in first-round proper

By TOM HOWARD

FOUR of the county's non-league sides are just 90 minutes away from a potential meeting with Football League giants Southampton and Sheffield Wednesday in the FA Cup first round.

Dartford, Dover Athletic, Ebbsfleet United and Hythe Town are all just a game away from progression to the first round and are all hoping to be this year's giant-killers.

The FA Cup is renowned for its upsets involving non-league sides down the years, and Kent League side Hythe Town are keeping up the tradition with their impressive run to the fourth qualifying round.

Scott Porter's side are on the verge of making history with a possible maiden appearance in the first round, after keeping their cup dreams alive with a 1-0 win at Ryman Premier League Concord Rangers last Saturday. However, they will need to dig deep to overcome Conference South side Staines Town to progress, but the Hythe boss is already dreaming of a trip to St Mary's.

Porter said: "These days don't come around often and we go into every game wanting to win it and we'll be looking to create another shock. We're just enjoying every single minute of it whoever we've got next, and it's a great bit of history if we do it because we could be playing Southampton if we get through."

Picture: SPORTSHOTZ.CO.UK

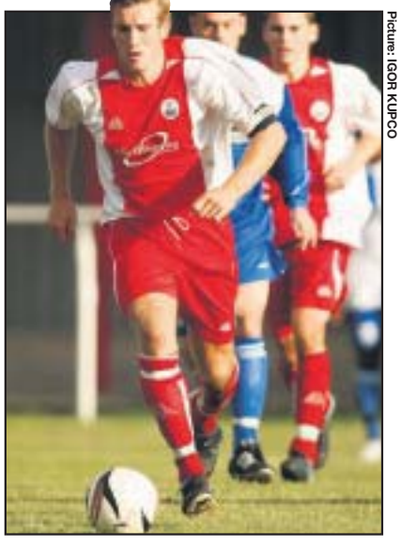
OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS: Dartford (in white) and Hythe (far right) are a win away from a big FA Cup tie

It's been 21 years since Dartford last made their appearance in the FA Cup first round, so it's no wonder the club's supporters are daring to dream this season.

The Conference South side will travel to Ridgeons Premier club, Leiston, after a titanic 9-8 win on penalties in Tuesday night's replay against Canvey Island.

Darts boss Tony Burman said: "It is games in this competition that players and supporters love. The fans love it because of the publicity and the financial rewards for the club are great."

Dover Athletic have endured a miserable record in the competition with only two first round ties in the last 28 seasons. The Whites have come close on many occasions, but this year they have a good chance with a trip to Farnborough.



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

Ebbsfleet United are one of the county's most successful sides in the competition, with four first round ties in the last 10 years. They will aim to make that five when fellow Conference South side Boreham Wood visit Stonebridge Road.

All four cup ties take place next Saturday.

Stones return is only on if ground is scaled down

MAIDSTONE United's new chief executive, Bill Williams, says a return to the county town by the club's stated target of 2011 is a realistic proposition – but only if existing stadium plans are scaled down.

Eyebrows were raised when the new board said they planned to bring the club home by the end of next year, but Williams said: "Hopefully we'll have quite a dynamic plan. It (the planned stadium at James Whatman Way) is not going to be massive, but it will be practical.

"If Maidstone's got a population of 160,000 for argument's sake, I think we'll get crowds of 800 to 1,000 if there's a reasonable team on the field. Obviously we'll get more if we have a cup run, so we need to build a basic shell for 2,500 to 3,000, with the room to go up if we need to."

Williams, part of a trio of directors alongside the new owners Terry Casey and Oliver Ash, says there has been a positive reaction to the takeover among supporters and potential sponsors.

"We haven't asked hundreds and thousands of people, but we got an excellent reaction on Saturday (the new board's first game against Aveley) which I think was down to a bit of relief to be honest," he said.

"People were thinking 'thank God this is over'. We've also had a good response from the council, with three or four people saying if there's anything that needs doing they'll help, and three or four businesses."

FRESH START: Stones' new owners Terry Casey (left) and Oliver Ash (right) with chief executive Bill Williams (centre)

But he warned the new board will need to stabilise the club and sort out the red tape before it can reveal more detailed plans.

"When you take over any business you've got to go through a process," he said. "Once you've signed the deal you've got to sort out your office, telephone lines, set up bank accounts and change all the old information.

"It takes seven to 10 days and it's quite boring to be honest. In terms of payments to different people, that's another seven to 10 days again and at the point we'll have stabilised it and hopefully we'll be able to move forward."

Home-grown talent comes good for Fleet at right time

THE Stonebridge Road revolving door spun again this summer, but two home-grown talents are well on their way to becoming permanent fixtures in the Ebbsfleet United side.

Midfielders Michael West and Tom Phipp are quickly becoming stars of the Fleet's Conference South promotion push, having both progressed through the club's youth set-up and worked their way into manager Liam Daish's first-team plans.

At 19, West was one of one of only five players to remain with the Fleet beyond the end of last season, while Phipp, 17, signed senior forms in July, three months after lifting the FA County Youth Cup with Kent.

Assistant manager Paul McCarthy saw both players develop through the club's PASE programme and admitted the break-up of Daish's squad in the summer had broadened the horizon for both players this season.

"Yes, no doubt about it," he said. "The budget had been cut and there's only so many experienced players you can get in, but Tom was always in our plans to get a contract anyway and he's proved us right. We knew what he was capable of, but it's a challenge when you're used to playing youth team games for so long, to start playing against men is tough.

"Last season Westy was in and out a lot, but he's really stepped up and he's shown he's more than capable of performing. All being well, we'd like to see them develop and go even further up the leagues."

Both players have already weighed in with vital goals this season, with West bagging a late winner at Farnborough, while Phipp's strike at leaders Bromley earned the Fleet a well-deserved point.

While McCarthy believes they have a huge part still to play in Ebbsfleet's season, his real hope is to use the duo's example to entice the next crop of young talent to the club.

"Hopefully we can use it as a way of attracting some better young players," he said. "Five or six years ago, we were one of the only clubs doing it [PASE] but now there's a lot of competition locally. However, we've shown that if you're good enough, you will get your chance."

REGULAR PICKS Tom Phipp gives Michael West a lift
Picture: DAVE PLUMB

INSIDE SPORT THIS WEEK

How the county's athletes fared in the controversial Commonwealth Games in Delhi

Rising Kent all-rounder Matt Coles on his future at St Lawrence

Brands Hatch owner Jonathan Palmer on a successful year for the circuit

BENN FIGHTS CANCER

Golfer vows to return to Tour after having kidney removed

EXCLUSIVE

By **TOM HOWARD**

KENT golfer Benn Barham insists he will fight back and make a European Tour return after a cancer scare forced him to have his kidney removed.

The popular county professional had his right kidney taken out in an operation at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital on Tuesday after it was found to have a potentially cancerous tumour.

The 34-year-old, who lives in Tenterden, was only aware of the tumour after he went for an ultrasound scan following stomach problems suffered while playing on the European Challenge Tour earlier this season.

The scan showed no signs of stomach abnormalities, but did highlight a tumour on his kidney, which doctors recommended be removed.

Barham, who lost his permanent place on the European Tour last season, is awaiting results of the operation, but expects to make a full recovery. The two-time Challenge Tour winner says he has been overwhelmed by the messages of support received.

Speaking from his hospital bed, he said: "I have had the operation and now I've only got the one kidney. I feel pretty groggy but that is expected after a major operation, and now I have just got to wait for the results in a couple of weeks.

"It is a weight off my mind knowing that I have had the operation, but now I've just got to wait for the results and see what plan of action I will have to take next."

The procedure and ensuing recovery has cut short his golf season and ended his chances of competing in November's Tour Qualifying School for a full 2011 European Tour card.

Emotional

The Chart Hills Golf Club member was in competitive action right up until last weekend when he played in the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship, alongside Ryder Cup winners Lee Westwood, Martin Kaymer and Colin Montgomerie.

Barham finished tied 83rd after missing the cut at the prestigious St Andrews Old Course, but said knowing it would be his last tournament for a while, playing the final hole was an emotional experience.

"The Alfred Dunhilll Links was good, but when I was coming down the last hole knowing I had missed the cut it was a bit emotional because I knew this would be my last tournament for a bit," he said.

Picture: ADY KERRY

BIGGEST FIGHT: Benn Barham had a kidney removed on Tuesday after scan revealed potentially cancerous tumour

It's too early to put a date on a return to professional golf, but Barham insists his career is not over and he wants to make a comeback on the European Tour.

He said: "The Challenge Tour schedule hasn't come out yet, but it will probably start around January February time.

"It will most likely take two months to recover fully from the operation and then I will have to get back into the swing of playing and get back to being match fit. I definitely want to return to the Tour once I fully recover though."

The father of one is a committed supporter of Demelza House Children's Hospice, near Sittingbourne, and says he plans to continue his charity work while he recovers.

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Scouts keep an eye on Gills ace

POTENTIAL: Andy Hessenthaler (inset) says Jack Payne is one to watch

GILLINGHAM midfielder Jack Payne looks set for a bright future after manager Andy Hessenthaler revealed the teenager is being watched by a number of other clubs, ***writes Glenn Pearson.***

The 18-year-old has been one of the stand-out players for the Gills so far this term, so much so that scouts have been keeping tabs on his progress in League Two.

Payne signed a three-year deal at Gillingham in October last year and would command a fee if he was to move on, but Hessenthaler is confident his midfield maestro will be staying put.

"With Jack Payne, we've got more and more scouts turning up week in, week out watching him and that's good for him and the club," he said. "He's got a long-term deal, he loves it here and he's a local boy. I think he's loving his football at the moment and it's important he keeps getting more and more games under his belt.

"He's a Matt Jarvis for me, we gave him his chance in the lower divisions and now look at him, he's playing in the Premier League and doing really well. For me, Jack Payne's in that mould, without a doubt."

Another player impressing the Gills boss is striker Cody McDonald.

The Norwich loanee missed yesterday's game at Port Vale with a calf strain, as did Adebayo Akinfenwa (groin), but they are both expected to be fit for Saturday's visit of Torquay. "I've been pleased with Cody, he's a pleasure to work with," Hessenthaler said.

"It would be nice to have him settled – sometimes when the goals start flying in, you get a partnership and perhaps he's getting that with big Bayo.

"Unfortunately they've both been disrupted and we need to get that settled."

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